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COLLECTIONS

PART III

Temporary Title-page]

THE MALONE SOCIETY

1909

This Third Part of the Society's *Collections* is continuous with those already published. When sufficient parts have appeared to form a substantial volume an index and preliminary matter will be issued.

July 1910.

W. W. Greg, *Gen. Ed.*

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* * * Except where otherwise stated the responsibility for
contributions rests with the General Editor.

NOTES ON THE SOCIETY'S PUBLICATIONS

THE publications of the Malone Society for the year 1909 consist of five plays—John Phillip's *Patient Grissell*, the *Two Italian Gentlemen*, Brandon's *Virtuous Octavia*, the *Iphigenia at Aulis* translated by Jane, Lady Lumley, and the *Second Maiden's Tragedy*—together with the present part of the Society's Collections. Once again the General Editor's thanks are due to the kindness and courtesy of all those who have shared in the work of preparation.

The Society was fortunate in obtaining, through the generosity of one of its members, Mr. Bernard Quaritch, the opportunity of reprinting John Phillip's play, the existence of which had never even been suspected by modern bibliographers. This naturally lends the publication an unusual interest which is heightened by the fact that the play is an almost unique example of a particular type which appeared and rapidly vanished in the development of the English drama. The author, who elsewhere describes himself as the son of Robert Phillip, clothworker, and a student of Queens' College, Cambridge, is rather obscure, and some doubt attaches alike to the canon of his works and the form of his name. As regards the latter, an examination of other publications in which it appears shows that the form Phillip, which is found on the title-page of the play and is also that adopted in the British Museum catalogue, should be preferred to all the variants—Philip, Philips, Phillips, Phillyps—advocated by the Dictionary of National Biography.

The ultimate source of *Patient Grissell* is, of course, the tenth

novel of the tenth day of Boccaccio's *Decameron*, but whether Phillip went direct to the Italian original may be doubted. It must be borne in mind that the story had been translated into Latin by Petrarch, and that a French rendering of this version had appeared at Paris early in the sixteenth century; also that a French translation of the whole *Decameron* by Laurens de Premier-Faits was accessible in several editions. There was also a French play on the subject which has been preserved both in a late fourteenth-century manuscript and in a printed version of about 1550. The mutual relations of these various works appear to be somewhat intricate and have not yet been worked out. One small point may be mentioned before leaving Phillip's play. Grissell, it will be remembered, sings a song with the refrain 'Singe danderlie Distaffe, & danderlie' (ll. 219-66 of the reprint). It may or may not be significant that in 1565-6, the very year of the first entry of *Patient Grissell* in the Stationers' Register, there was also licensed, to Alexander Lacy, 'a ballett intituled Danderly Dyscaffe' (Arber's Transcript, I. 302).

Our second play, *Fidele and Fortunio, the two Italian Gentlemen*, is scarcely less of a bibliographical curiosity than *Patient Grissell*, and is certainly possessed of greater literary attraction. The piece has, of course, been long known to students through the description given by Collier in his *History of English Dramatic Poetry* (1831, iii. 241; 1875, iii. 60), and the extracts printed by Halliwell in his *Literature of the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries* (1852, p. 15). Curiously enough, however, neither mentioned the whereabouts of the original, a point which continued to puzzle students until, about a year ago, Mrs. S. A. Strong, then librarian to the Duke of Devonshire, reported the missing play at Chatsworth, and with his usual kindness His Grace allowed the elusive quarto to be brought up to the British Museum and reprinted.

This Chatsworth copy is unfortunately incomplete, wanting, it may be presumed, two preliminary leaves at the beginning and two leaves of text at the end. That Halliwell printed his extracts from this copy is proved by a note indicating in his source an

identical imperfection at the end, while the preliminary leaves were evidently also wanting. Collier recorded two copies, ‘one without the title-page, and the other wanting also the dedication.’ This second copy must be that now at Chatsworth, formerly in the Inglis and Heber collections, in spite of the fact that no mention is made of the deficiency at the end. Of the copy with a dedication no other record survives. Collier’s note runs:

‘The following is the Dedication upon the initials subscribed to which depends the claim of Anthony Munday to be considered the translator: the letters belong to no other author of that period.

“To the worshipfull and very courteous Gentleman, Maister John Heardson, Esquier, A. M. commendeth this pleasaunt and fine conceited Comœdie.

“Woorshipful sir, my acquaintaunce with you is very little, which may impeach me of presumption in this mine attempt: but the good report of your affable nature to every one, giveth me hope to be entertained amongst them. I commende to your freendly viewe this prettie conceit, as well for the invention, as the delicate conveiance thereof, not doubting but you will so esteeme thereof, as it dooth very well deserve, and I hartely desire. As for myselfe, your good construction will gather (I hope) the sum of my good will: which is more towards you then I will heere speake of, and therefore is left to your wonted favour to judge of. Your worship to his power—

“A.M.”

‘Had Munday been more than the translator, he would scarcely have spoken of the piece in the terms he has here employed.’

[The later edition has a few trifling variants: in the heading ‘Master’ for ‘Maister’; ‘one giveth’ for ‘one, giveth’ in l. 3; and ‘will; which’ for ‘will: which’ in l. 9 of the text. In the last line ‘worship’ is presumably an error for ‘worships’.]

The only corroboration of the existence of a second copy of this play—the only bibliographical statement, that is, which does not obviously go back to Collier himself—occurs in Hazlitt’s

Handbook, p. 406. There will be found the following note : ' Only 2 copies are known, neither of which has the title-page. The running title is "The Two Italian Gentlemen". Dedicated to John Heardson, Esq., by A. M.; on the reverse of this dedication is a Prologue spoken before the Queen, consisting of two 6-line stanzas. The dedication is printed in Collier's H. E. D. P. iii., 243 [sic for 242]; it is only in one of the two known copies.' Regarding the source of this statement it has unfortunately been impossible to obtain any information. But it will be seen that the two copies mentioned are clearly those described by Collier. We are then to suppose that Collier had the Prologue to the Queen before him and yet never mentioned it. This is the more unlikely in that such a prologue would clearly imply a court performance, whereas Collier says that 'whether it was ever acted we have no means of knowing'. Moreover, it is significant that in the course of his description of the play Collier does quote 'two 6-line stanzas' [headed in the later edition 'A Love Song'], namely ll. 194-205 of the Malone reprint. In the absence, therefore, of further information, it would be unsafe to regard Hazlitt's note as anything but a confused and inaccurate summary of Collier's description. But an uncorroborated statement of Collier's is never very satisfactory evidence, and there are one or two circumstances which are calculated to raise special doubt in the present case. For upon the alleged dedication Collier based the ascription to Munday which he was the first to suggest, and which receives little support from stylistic considerations. Moreover there are two passages in the epistle itself which seem slightly suspicious. Thus, in connexion with the phrase 'impeach me of presumption', it should be observed that while 'to impeach of an act' is, of course, a common construction, there seems no authority for 'to impeach of a quality'. Again, the phrase 'the delicate conveyance' seems to mean the delicate manner in which the idea is communicated, but the earliest instance of conveyance in the sense of communication cited by the New English Dictionary is dated 1662, though it seems,

indeed, to have been so used by Nashe as early as 1594 (*Unfortunate Traveller*, ep. ded.). These would, indeed, be slender grounds for pronouncing the epistle a forgery, but it must be admitted that in the absence of any corroboration of Collier's statements it would be uncritical to attach weight to his ascription of the play to Anthony Munday.

Before proceeding it will be well to clear up a confusion as regards the authorship found among certain earlier bibliographers. There is no need to treat seriously Chetwood's entry of 'Fidelia and Fortunatus, about 1690' under the heading 'Mr. Barker'. But the ascription was not original. In Langbaine's *Dramatic Poets* (1691) we find the entry 'Fidele and Fortunatus: I know not what sort of Play it is, whether Comedy or Tragedy, having never seen it; but in Old Catalogues 'tis ascribed to Thomas Barker'. Now the form in which he quotes the title shows the 'Old Catalogue' he had before him to have been Kirkman's second list (1671). But in this there is no trace of Barker's name, which must therefore have crept in through some confusion. It is just possible that at a careless glance Langbaine confused 'Fidele and Fortunatus' with 'Fortunatus', i.e. *Old Fortunatus*, which occurs a few lines above, and so took down the name 'Tho. Decker', which then got transformed into 'Thomas Barker'. Kirkman had evidently not himself seen our play. While in 1671 he gave the title as 'Fidele and Fortunatus', in 1661 he called the piece 'Fidele and Fortunata'. This entry was borrowed from Archer's list of 1653, where we find 'Fidele and Fortunata. [Comedy]'. This in its turn is apparently an incorrect copy of the entry in Rogers and Ley's list of the same year, 'Fidele and fortunio'—this being the only place in which the names were given in their correct form previous to Collier's *History*.

But it is happily possible to offer more than merely negative conclusions. There is a claimant to the authorship of the play whose credentials, if they cannot be held to prove his absolute right, are at least above suspicion. For the per-

mission to make the following announcement, which is certainly not less startling than novel, the editor is indebted to the kindness of Mr. Charles Crawford, to whom belongs the sole credit for what is, in any case, an important discovery. The discovery is this: that, if we are to believe the statement of Robert Allot in 1600, the author, or rather translator, was none other than George Chapman. Under the heading 'Women' in *England's Parnassus* occurs the following entry (sig. X 4^v):

Their Vertues mount like billowes to the skies,
And vanish straight out of the gazers eyes,
Hate and disdaine is painted in theyr eyes,
Deceit and treason in their bosome lies.

G. Chapman.

[Collier, in his edition of *England's Parnassus* (1867, p. 369), gives *Ovid's Banquet of Sense* as the source of the lines, but this is merely one of the numerous misstatements he lavished upon the volume.]

These lines the reader will find in the *Two Italian Gentlemen*, spoken by Fidele: namely ll. 661-2 and 655-6.

There has been occasion before now to point out in these notes that Allot's testimony is not of a first-rate kind, but it is far from negligible, and in such a case as the present, in which it is the only serious evidence available, considerable weight must clearly be attached to it. Mr. Crawford thinks he can detect in the humour of the *Two Italian Gentlemen* a resemblance with that of Chapman, but the judgement is necessarily of too personal a character to add much to the weight of the external evidence. Chapman is supposed to have been born in 1559, and would therefore have been about twenty-five years of age at the time of the registration of the play.

But Mr. Crawford's discoveries do not stop here. He has drawn attention to the following poem which occurs in *England's Helicon* (1600, sig. O 3; ed. Bullen, p. 135):

¶ Montana the Sheepheard, his loue to Aminta.

I serue *Aminta*, whiter then the snowe,
Straighter then Cedar, brighter then the glasse : 225
More fine in trip, then foote of running Roe,
More pleasant then the field of flowring grasse.
More gladsome to my withering joyes that fade :
Then Winters Sunne, or Sommers cooling shade.

Sweeter then swelling Grape of ripest wine,
Softer then feathers of the fairest Swan : 230
Smoother then Iet, more stately then the Pine,
Fresher then Poplar, smaller then my span.
Clearer then *Phæbus* fierie pointed beame :
Or Icie crust of Christalls frozen streme. 235

Yet is she curster then the Beare by kind,
And harder harted then the aged Oake :
More glib then Oyle, more fickle then the wind,
More stiff then steele, no sooner bent but broake.
Loe thus my seruice is a lasting sore : 240
Yet will I serue, although I die therefore.

FINIS.

Shep. Tonie.

Now, as Mr. Crawford points out, this poem forms ll. 224-41 of our play. But there are certain significant variations. In l. 224 the play reads ‘I serue a Mistres’, l. 226 ‘Finer in trip and swifter then the Roe’, l. 234 ‘then Beauties’, l. 239 ‘Stiffer then’. Further, as mentioned in Bullen’s notes, a copy of these three verses occurs in a miscellaneous poetical manuscript in the British Museum, Harley 6910 (fol. 170). It is without heading or signature, and in the case of the variants just recorded it agrees with the play against the *Helicon* text. It presents, however, a number of peculiarities of its own. Thus in l. 227 it reads ‘fieldys’, in l. 229 a blank is left for the word ‘Sun’, the scribe being apparently unable to read his copy, in l. 230 the

reading is 'vine' (an obvious emendation), l. 233 'a span', ll. 234-5 run:

Clearer then beauties fyerie painted beames
Or yscie crests of Christall frozen streames,

l. 239 has 'bent then broake', and l. 240 'Loe this'. Yet one step more. In *England's Parnassus*, under the heading 'Discriptions of Beautie and Personage', is found a poem of 36 lines beginning 'In Paradise of late' and signed with the initials S. G. (1600, sig. 2 E 1; ed. Collier, p. 483). The first stanza of this poem ends with the lines:

Brighter then *Phæbus* fierie-pointed beames
Or ycie crust of christall frozen streames.

This couplet, it will be seen, agrees exactly with no other version. It stands alone in reading 'Brighter', agrees with *Helicon* as regards '*Phæbus*', supports the manuscript in 'beames', 'streames', and 'christall', but has 'pointed' correctly, and rejects the manuscript reading 'crests'. Its position is thus wholly anomalous, and it no doubt represents the recollection of an imitator who had come across the lines in more than one form. The identity of S. G. is unknown; the only suggestion being Stephen Gosson. It is certainly curious, in view of Collier's attribution of the play, that the Shepherd Tonie, to whom the verses are ascribed in *England's Helicon*, is commonly identified with Anthony Munday, though it must be admitted that the identification rests on a very slender basis.

Another point observed by Mr. Crawford is a certain resemblance between ll. 683-6 of our play:

He plowghes the seas, and fishes in the lande,
And loseth all the labour of them both,
He fondly reares his fortresse on the sande,
That builds his trust vpon a womans troth;

and the following out of Sidney's *Arcadia* (Bk. II, 1593, sig. V^{2v}, l. 19):

He water plowes, and soweth in the sand,
And hopes the flickring winde with net to holde,
Who hath his hopes laid vp in womans hand.

There would, of course, be nothing astonishing in the writer's having seen the *Arcadia* in manuscript, but it should be noticed that the poem in which the lines occur is not found in the first edition of Sidney's romance (1590), but only in the fuller version published from Lady Pembroke's own papers. It is perhaps, therefore, more likely that such resemblance as there is between the two passages should be due to the writers having imitated a common source.

But if some uncertainty still hangs about the identity of the translator of the play, recent research has at all events established beyond doubt that of the original author. In 1906 Professor G. C. Moore Smith edited, from the unique manuscript at Penshurst, a Latin comedy by Abraham Fraunce, to which he gave the title *Victoria*. The play was published as volume fourteen of the 'Materialien zur Kunde des älteren Englischen Dramas' edited by Professor W. Bang at Louvain. It fell to the lot of Professor Wolfgang Keller to notice the agreement between this Latin comedy and the description of the *Two Italian Gentlemen* given by Collier. He communicated his observation to Professor Moore Smith, who had the good fortune to lay his finger on the common original in Luigi Pasqualigo's comedy, *Il Fedele*, first printed, according to Allacci's *Drammaturgia*, at Venice in 1576, later editions appearing in 1579, 1589, and 1606. These results, together with a comparison of the three pieces in question (the English being represented by Halliwell's extracts), were published in the *Modern Language Review* in January, 1908 (iii. 178). Meanwhile the connexion of Fraunce's play with that of Pasqualigo had been independently noted by Professor Wilhelm Creizenach of Cracow, who drew attention thereto in a volume of 'Stromata in honorem Casimiri Morawski' (Cracoviae, 1908, p. 217). Fraunce's version preceded the publication at all events of the English.

The latter is by far the freer rendering, but it is evident that it was made direct from the Italian, since it not only retains passages in that language but likewise uses the word 'Sbirri' (i. e. 'catchpoles') as the name of the Captain of the Watch. There seems no evidence that Larivey's French version of Pasqualigo's play saw the light before 1611.

As to whether the English play was ever performed it is impossible to speak with certainty. Collier wrote that 'whether it was ever acted we have no means of knowing, but it was ill calculated for representation, and could hardly have been popular'. This is a 'somewhat surprising judgement, for it certainly seems not unsuited to the stage according to the standard of the early eighties, the years that witnessed the first efforts of Lyly and Peele. Moreover Nashe's allusion to Crackstone in 1596 appears much more natural if we suppose the play to have been familiar on the boards. Nevertheless Collier's dictum has become the orthodox view: 'seemingly never brought on the stage,' says Ward (*English Dramatic Literature*, i. 431); 'Probably not acted,' echoes Fleay (*Biographical Chronicle*, ii. 113).

With regard to Samuel Brandon's *Octavia* there is nothing to add to what has already been said in the note prefixed to the reprint. Nor is there much to say about the *Iphigenia*. An edition of the piece appears in the Shakespeare-Jahrbuch for 1910, in the introduction to which the editor claims to have shown that Lady Lumley made considerable use of Erasmus' Latin version, from which her 'Argument' is, indeed, directly translated. He has not, however, succeeded in determining the edition of the original used. The rendering is in any case far from faithful, but the deviations from the original should not be measured by comparison with a modern edition of Euripides. The sixteenth-century texts often differ widely among themselves, especially in the distribution of speeches, and none of them seem very satisfactory in this respect. It is perhaps worth while drawing attention to a record in the Revels' accounts for 1571-2 of 'Effiginia A Tragedye shonen on the Innosents daie at nighte by the Children of powles' (Feuillerat, *Revels of Elizabeth*, 145).

Whether or not there is any truth in Fleay's guess, 'Translation from Euripides' (*Biographical Chronicle*, ii. 287), the piece is not likely to have had any connexion with Lady Lumley's. The reference to a song belonging to an English version of the play found in certain bibliographies is based on a misapprehension.

Lastly, a few words may be added with regard to the *Second Maiden's Tragedy*. The ultimate source of the main plot is the story of Herod and Mariamne. This is indicated in the play itself where the Tyrant says :

I once read of a *Herod* whose affection
 pursued a virgins loue, as I did thine
 whoe for the hate she owd him kilde her self
 (as thow to rashlie didst,) wthout all pittie :
 yet he preserud her bodie dead in honie
 and kept her longe after her funerall. (ll. 1856-61.)

This is, indeed, sufficiently far from the historical narrative of Mariamne, who became Herod's wife, bore him five children, and was put to death by him in a fit of jealousy. Yet the story was of considerable antiquity and is thus reported in the Jewish Encyclopedia (s. v. Mariamne) : 'There is a Talmudic legend concerning the marriage and death of Mariamne, although her name is not mentioned. It is to the effect that when the whole house of the Hasmoneans had been rooted out, she threw herself from the roof and was killed (*Baba Batra, Talmud*, 3 b). Out of love for her, Herod is said to have kept her body preserved in honey for seven years (*ib.*; S. Geiger, in 'Ozar Nehmad', iii. 1).' The sub-plot of the play, on the other hand, is taken from the tale of the Curious Impertinent told in the fourth part of *Don Quixote*, chapters vi-viii. Some of the names are retained. With regard to the authorship, the only thing to be said is that no suggestion yet made can claim serious authority. It is not true, as stated in the preface to the piece in Hazlitt's edition of Dodsley's Old Plays (reprinted from Baldwin's Old English Drama of 1824-5), that the first name written at the end of the manuscript is 'William (afterwards

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altered to Thomas) Goughe'. The christian name is Thomas; it has been scored through but not altered: the surname is either Goffe, or possibly Gouffe, certainly not Gough. The more critical guesses of later writers include the names of Massinger, Tourneur, and Middleton, but the respective claims of these authors cannot here be discussed.

ALBION KNIGHT

A FRAGMENT OF A MORALITY PRINTED BY COLWELL, C. 1566.

IN the course of the craft-year which began on 22 July 1565, and early in it, the following memorandum was entered in the Register of the Stationers' Company: 'Receyvd of Thomas Colwell for his lycence for prynting of a play intituled a merye playe bothe pytthy and pleasaunt of albyon knyghte . . . iiiij^d' (Arber's Transcript, I. 299). That the piece was extant in the seventeenth century is clear from the entry 'Albion. I[nterlude].' which occurs in the lists both of Archer (1656) and Kirkman (1661 and 1671), but neither Langbaine nor Gildon saw it. Chetwood, in the *British Theatre* of 1750, invented the date 1573, which is said to have been copied by Oldys in his notes, and also appears in Baker's *Companion to the Play-house* in 1764. By 1782, however, when this was enlarged by Reed under the title of *Biographia Dramatica*, the entry in the Stationers' Register had been discovered. Subsequent bibliographers have added nothing new.

The first to record the existence of the only fragment of this play known to survive was J. P. Collier, who gave a detailed account of it in his *History of Dramatic Poetry* (1831, ii. 369), and reprinted it in full in the Shakespeare Society's Papers in 1840 (i. 55). He states that it was 'recovered from the fly-leaves of an old book, where it had been originally placed by the binder as waste paper'. This may be so, though the leaves bear no sign of having ever formed part of a binding. The extant fragment, which consists of the outer half of sheet B and the whole of sheet C, six leaves in all, is preserved in the Library at Chatsworth, bound up in a volume of miscellaneous

papers, along with a careful transcript in Collier's handwriting, and the fragment of *Temperance and Humility*, which also figures in the present part of the Society's Collections. It is to the generosity of the Duke of Devonshire and the kind offices of his late librarian, Mrs. S. A. Strong, that the Society is indebted for the present reprints of both fragments.

It will at once be seen that, like *Wealth and Helth*, *Albions Knight* belongs to the type of the political morality, better known in such monumental examples as the *Satyre of Three Estates*, *Magnificence*, and *Respublica*. Bale's *King Johan*, though akin, can hardly be classed with these, on account of its historical basis. Nothing is known as to the authorship or history of the piece, for Collier's suggested identification with a play performed at court in 1559 does not merit discussion.

Nay, I will taste of other assayes
And spare our dame for holy daies
So that for very neede shee must vse her feate
With other of her houfe, and such as she can geate,
Yet is she not much to blame
Though shee increase her husbandes name
Such chyldren to brynge as now ye see mee
Tall men as I am vnworthie though I bee.
C Thou spekest lyke a Lorell full larg & full lewdly Iustice
10 And not lyke a childe gotten of true matrymony
And yet though thy person enduce no lykelyhode
That in thee shuld be any manhode
Yet besyde that thou seemest of manhode frayle
Because so abused is thy lyght apparaile.
C Apparell, good syr, what faulte is that Inuri.
Though grey be her cote why blame ye y wild cat
Why shuld ye hym deme of nature frayle
Though as wyse as ye wolde were a Fox tayle
Or a cote after the comen vsage
20 Or haue by nature a mad wysage
These be no wytnesse for Iustyce to dysferne
Nor certayne knowledge of nature to lerne
And christ taught you syr how ye shuld iudge men
Sayenge Nolite iudicare secundum faciem.
And yet in nature better knowledge shuld bee
Then is in apparell ye know perdie.
C O yet in apparell is great abusion Iustice
If it be framed without dyscretion
For in apparell there may a great token bee
30 Of fraylenes, of pryde, and instabylytie,
If cōmen assyse therin vse no mesure
For then is apparell a wanton foolysh pleasure
And foly, best mede is of presumpcyon
When nature of reasoun vfed resumpcyon,

- And therfore Chryſt taught a ḡeāt wyſe proſe
Sayenge Ex fructibus eorum cognoscetis eos.
Iniuri. ¶ Yet with ſame text I pray you wipe your noſe
Hee ſaid not Ex vestibus eorum cognoscetis eos.
Albion. ¶ Yet freindes I pray you once agayne
To feaſe your trauice that breedes diſdayne 40
And hartely both I do you pray.
That both your frendshyps haue I may.
Iniury. ¶ Syr as for myne ye ſhall not myſſe
But thys gentleman I thinke wyll go pyſſe.
Iuſtice. ¶ Nay ſyr Albyon I wyll not draw backe
If that of mee ye haue lacke,
So that I were in perfyte fuertie
That this man here ſhuld manhode bee.
Iniury. ¶ Now Chryſtes benedycyte
How Albion and Iuſtyce hath forgot mee 50
Because of mee they had no exercyſe
Of long tyme by any enterpryſe
Wherfore ſithen ye can not know me by experience
I wote not how ye ſhuld knowe me but by my cre-
Therfore by my trouth & by my honestie (dence
Beleue mee, for manhode trulie I am hee.
Albion. ¶ Then by your othe I am content
To haue your frendhyp with good affent
And Iuſtice I pray you to do the fame.
Iuſtice. ¶ Syr if manhod be hys name 60
As hee hath fworne I wolde be glad
That hys frenshyp alſo I had.
Albion. ¶ Then Iuſtyce I pray you bothe
Let mee knyt you both vpon hys othe.
And th̄e he taketh both their hands togither faieng
Now freindes I truſt we be all three
And with this knot I pray you contented to bee
Iuſtice. ¶ Syr ye ought to be contented beſt of all
For

- Where iustice is treitied with due equitie
 70 And where no fauour nor mede shuld bee
 And when reason hath tried there euerie deale
 That such an acte were good for the comen weale
 If therin anie losse may bee
 To the disaduauntage of Principaltie
 Such an acte lefeth all hys fute
 With a lytle indoysing of reason astute
 And if it touche the Lordes sprytuall
 Or be disfauauntage to the Lordes temporall
 Fare well, go bett, this bill may sleepe
 As well as through the parlyament creepe
 80 And if that Marchauntes be moouid with all
 Or anie multitude of the comen hall
 This is not for vs say they than
 This bill is naught but for to wype a pan
 And this is all your new equitie
 And for all your message, yet thus will it bee.
 ¶ Alas if this may not reformed bee Albion.
 I shall neuer be sure of prosperitie.
 ¶ Ye and what foloweth hereof maister Albion Iniuri.
 To your person vniuersall derysion
 90 ¶ Why to mee derision.
 ¶ For all other straunge nacions Albion.
 They will raile on you with open proclamacions
 Saienge whosoeuer do as he dose
 Is halfe a man and halfe a wild goose.
 ¶ Why halfe a man and halfe a wyld goose. Iniuri.
 ¶ For with hie reason they faie ye can dispute
 And trie out perils with labourous fute
 And eke the treasure for the comen vaile
 As farr as wit or reason can affaile
 100 But when all is done and your statute made
 Then foorth ye go in a wise trade

To

ALBION KNIGHT

To bryng it all to good conclusion
 And put it neuer in execucion
 Then speke they further in stede of a mocke
 They haue made a statute lyke a woodkocke
 That hath but one eye and the other blynde
 And it wyll turne with euery wynde
 And for because ye study but for the begynnyng
 And neuer prouide for a sure endyng
 Begynnyng lyke a man ye take great assay
 At laft lyke a wyld goose euen but to flye awaye.

110

Iustice. ¶ Well if thys be true it is more pytie
 Yet let vs endeuer both ye and I
 To taste our meffage that it were done
 To helpe here of some reformacyon.

Albion. ¶ Ye that to do I pray you bothe
 And to you two I promyse by othe
 I shall mee endeuer with the cōmynaltie
 Theyr hole allegyaunce to keepe in vnytie.

120

Iustice. ¶ Then God be your spede for I wil forth my way
 ¶ And I will after god guyde vs that best may.

Iniuri. ¶ And I wyll tarye no longer whyle
 But as I see you ouer the style.

Then departeth Albion & Iustice both.

Iniuri. ¶ Now here begynneth a game ywys
 For manhode they wene my name is
 But trust mee syrs if I shuld not lye
 My name is called Iniury
 Whych name to hyde I thought it polysie
 And turne it to manhode, and wote ye why ?
 It is a parte of our new experyence
 When I agaynst ryght make stiffe defence
 That Iustycie in hys feate may not be enstabled
 Then am I Iniury manhode called
 O than of mee craketh euery man

130

How

¹²³ Iniuri. half a line too low in original.
¹³⁰ thought, sic.

¹²⁹ called, possibly calle d.

How lyke a Lord this fellow here can
The lawe to defend without a fall
For all theyz pledyng in Westminster hall,
Or say what they wyl and bable there
Yet mayntaunce and I wyl kepe the cheere
If it come once to the countree
Then as I wyl so shall it bee
A very cause syg why I hyde my name
Was, they shuld not suspect my faine
Because I wolde spye all theyz intent
To chaunge theyz purpose after my iudgement
And so wyl I do, for thys is theyz pretence
By meane of Justice to brynge in expertyence
That peace shuld contynew the people amonge
And so by that meane to banysh mee wronge
But trust me syg I wyl none of that
But rather by theyz faces I wyl them scrat
And mee to mayntaine in this oppnion
I haue an olde mate called Drypcion
That shalbe of my counsayle in thys case
Whych I truste wyl not turne hys face
Tyll Peace be dryuen clene from Albyon
And then let Justyce and mee alone
For I trust on hee and I haue done
He shall go whystle in a mary bone
As for any ryghtfull iudgement
That after this shall folow hys intent
And now syg will I goo my waye
My felow to seke, fynde him if I may.

Here Inury goeth out, & then Division comers
in with a byll, a sword a buckler, & a dagger.

I haue in the ruske
Out of the buske
A lustye Captayne,

Distrig
vii.

- How lyke a Lordē this fellow stere can
 The lawe to defend without a fall
 For all theyr pledyng in Westminster hall,
 140 Or say what they wyll and bable there *
 Yet mayntenaunce and I wyll kepe the chere
 If it come once to the countree
 Then as I wyll so shall it bee
 A very cause fyrs why I hyde my name
 Was, they shuld not suspect my fame
 Because I wolde spye all theyr intent
 To chaunge theyr purpose after my iudgement
 And so wyll I do, for thys is theyr pretence
 By meane of Iustice to brynge in experyence
 150 That peace shuld continew the people amonge
 And so by that meane to banysh mee wronge
 But trust me fyrs I wyll none of that
 But rather by theyr faces I wyll them scrat
 And mee to mayntaine in this opynion
 I haue an olde mate called Dyuycion
 That shalbe of my counsayle in thys case
 Whych I truste wyll not turne hys face
 Tyll Peace be dryuen clene from Albyon
 And then let Iustyce and mee alone
 160 For I trust or hee and I haue done
 He shall go whystle in a mary bone
 As for any ryghtfull iudgement
 That after this shall folow hys intent
 And now fyrs will I goo my waye
 My felow to feke, fynde him if I may.

Here Iniury goeth out, & then Diuision cōmeth
 in with a byll, a sword a buckler, & a dagger.

- C Haue in the ruske
 Out of the buske
 170 A lustye Captayne,

Diuify
on.

C.

A

A Boore with a tuske
 A sturdie Luske
 Any battaile to detaine
 A stalyon stoute
 To beare it out
 In euery wheare,
 And neufer to Loute
 For a knaues cloute
 though my hed it beare.
 As styffe as a stake
 • Battayle to make
 As neufer aferde.

I can awake
 These knaues and take
 Them fast by the berde,
 For Peace is bent
 Nor full intent
 To lyue at ease,
 Shall not preuent
 Let of my iudgement
 To alter in dysease.
 Such cast I haue
 To coniure a knaue
 Out of his skynne,
 Though Iustyce rauue
 To hange or faue
 Fye on hym horson.

Here cometh Iniury in agayne.

Iniuri. ¶ Mary fye on hym horeson
 Diuify on. What art thou mad agayne.
 Iniury ¶ What myne olde freinde Iniury
 How were other hanged and thou let go by.
 ¶ By god because I tooke delaye
 For lacke of thee to bee myne atturneye.

180

190

200

What

- ¶ What horson woldest thou haue mee
Be trussed vp in stede of thee. Diuify on.
- ¶ Ye by god, but euen for a faye
That I might lerne of you to know the playe. Iniury
- ¶ To play horson, what menist thou by that
¶ By god me thought euen now ye were in a snare diuisiō.
- 210 Or els an huntyng to catche an hare
But harke I say, do togither and spell Iniuri.
- Beware euer amonge of the frery clarke's bell.
- ¶ It is doubtfull to mee all that thou spekest
I pray thee spell it thy self & tell me what thou me- Diuify on.
- ¶ But woldest thou nedes so fayne know it (nest
I tell thee with Albion and Iustyce I am knyt
Therfore it were wyfdom for thee
To beware what thou fayest before mee
220 ¶ What horeson then thou hast forsaken mee. diuisiō.
- ¶ Nay I had leuer ye were skynned all three
For I haue turned the wronge syde of my hode
And tolde them my name was manhode
And now by god in any wyse
For both our eases I must haue thyne aduyse.
- ¶ What hast thou now chaunged thyne olde copy
To Iustyce and Albyon to be a comen hoby,
Or art thou a ferde of thy olde name
That in euery place is had in fame
230 And is supported in such suffrentie
From the lowist vnto the hyest degree.
- ¶ Nay by god I was not aferd
It was but for to claw theyr berde
Or rub it of all that they ment
That I myght know all theyr intent
Wheroft the matter is to longe to tell
For the tyme that we dyd mell
But shortly to shew thee for a conclusyon

C.ii.

Theyr

231 lowist, the i doubtful, possibly a broken s.

Theyr mynde is to bryng vs bōth to confusyon.

diuisiō. ¶ I pray thee by what meane.

Iniuri. ¶ Albyon hath sent Iustyce to Pyncypaltie
To haue affystence, and mee to suffreyntie
Of the Lordes temporall to haue theyr ayde
That Iustyce in no wyse shuld be delayde.
And this thou knowest well inough perdye
Thus they meane to destroy thee and mee
And as for Iustyce foorth is gone
Spe ede as he can, but I taryed alone
. And yet I wolde no messenger bee

240

Tyll I had the aduyce of thee
Therfore how fayest thou now in thys case
Wee shall not be idle to play at thys bace.

diuisiō. ¶ Tush as for this I care not a puddyng prycke
For wee two wyll go thorow thyn and thycke
Maygrefesse theyr heades euerychone
Though they be as harde as rocke or stome

250

Iniury ¶ I pray thee tell mee howe

diuisiō. ¶ Fyrst I my selfe wyll enterpryse
That peace shall haue no exersyse

Betweene the comons and Pyncypalitie

260

Nor betweene lords spiritual & lords of the tempo-

Iniury ¶ Or ſt go ani further tel me by what mene (raltie

diuisiō. ¶ I haue two spyes of great exercyſe

The one is called double deuyce

Hym wyll I fende I may tell thee

Vnto the court to Pyncypalytye,

And hym wyll I charge that wyth hys prouifyon

Pyncypalytye and the comons to fet at dyuyfyon

The feconde spye is called olde debate

A synguler fellow with a ballyd pate

270

Hym wyll I fend to the lordes spirituall

To caufe them to wrangle w̄ the lords temporall.

¶ What

- ¶ What shall they vse in their deuise.
 ¶ The one to principalytie shall furmyse
 That the comons hartes do aryse
 Against him, when that he doth aske
 In tyme of neede, our money for taske,
 His harte to mooue with such vnkyndnes.
 Then the same spye shall vse lyke doublenes
 280 And go to the comons and to them tell
 That Principalytie with equtie doth rebell
 More to hys lucre in euerie deale
 Applyeng his affection then to the comen weale
 And how that he of neglygence
 Doth not apply for theyr defence,
 Neither by Sea nor by londe
 Neither by hye wayes, neither by stronde
 But theues and raueners and murders eke
 Dayly true men they pursue and feke
 290 And that his lawes indifferently
 Be not vsed, but maintenaunce and brybary
 Is suffred alone without reformacion
 That the poore comons is in altercation
 Of this matter and wote not what to say
 Bringing them in opinion þ they ought not to pay
 To pryncypalytie theyr duety of very desarte
 Except lyke duetie be mynistred on hys parte.
 ¶ I make god a vowe this is a souerayne bayte
 To brynge our purpose to a narow strayte
 300 But what shall the other spye then do
 A felowshyp tell me that also.
 ¶ Mary he shall enfourme the lordes temporall
 That the spyrytuall men wolde rule all
 And saye it were shame to them by the rood
 That ben dyscended from the noble blood
 To suffre any other of such powre to bee

Iniuri.
diuisiō.

Iniuri.

diuisiō.

To haue the gouernaunce about principalytie
 Sythen they inheritous are borne to bee
 Of the hye counsell by blood and dygnytie
 Which medycyne I trow wyll not lyghlie starte
 Till it hath tyckled them all by the harte 310
 Then shall the same spye taft the other parte.
 And turne to them the wronge fide of the carte
 And say that god of his hye great grace
 To them hath geuen good fortune and space
 By lerning fadnes and grauitie
 •And for theyr due reward in honour to bee
 And bere to them boldly in hand
 That they ought by reason to rule thys land
 Because the power of temporaltie 320
 Hath no knowledge in conning perdie
 Neyther in youth will labour the passage
 Of paine for vertue to rule in age
 So that if they rulers wold bee
 They know not how, for in suffycientie
 Thus will I deuide by thys proper trayne
 That peace amongst them shall not rayne.

Iniuri. ¶ Mary thys is a cast of a new horse combe
 To rub any on the nauyll that hath a tickle wōbe
 This gere will worke after my fantasye 330
 To make of an olde grudge a new frenesie
 And this openeth the gate euen for mee
 That both the one and the other degree
 Shall wrastle with them selfe in such afflictions
 That everychone shal disdayne at other iurisdicti-
 diuisiō.
 Iniuri. ¶ What wilt thou do thē let me here thy cast (ons
 ¶ This gentle fede will I sowe at the last
 When Peace by thee is in perplexitie
 And wote not in what parte quyete to bee
 Then Iustice must euer be in doubt

340
 Which

310 lyghlie, *sic* for lyghtlie.

Which parte at nedē shall bere hym out
So that for my part he shall stand styll

Whyle I ronne at large and haue all my wyll.

¶ But to what conclusion wylt thou bryng it then diuisiō.

¶ Why knowest not thou, then harke me man Inuri.

This Iustice is a felow of a farr cast

And dryueth such dryftes to rule at the last

And Peace is hys brother of one degree

Which hath a fayre daughter that is called plentie

350 And Albion as longe as rest him treates

Hee loueth fayre flesh of all meates

And it is a comen saieng that Iustice Peace & hee

Will conclude a maryage with fayre dame plentie

And then wyll Albyon that olde soot

With rest and peace so on her doot

That than shee by her and her freindes

Shall fayle in stormes at all wyndes.

¶ By gods bread thou fayest trouth

diuisiō.

But this to help we must not vse slouth.

360 ¶ No, and therfore harke me to an ende

Inuri.

Thou and I shall thys matter defende

For thou shalt to Albyon a messenger bee

And say thou were present when principalitie

With Iustyce fell at great debate

When that his message he dyd delate

From Albiō, & tel him that principalitie in no wyfe

His will with equytie will graunt to exercyse

But that the law shuld be but after his lykyng

And euery wryt after hys entytelyng

370 And that his will who euer lyft to ftryfe

Shuld be the best part for hys prerogatyfe

And than they both sodeinly vpon thys

In great rages departed iwys

Wherfore Iustice said I am in such confusyon

That

That I am a shamed to turne againe to Albyon
 And when this message thou haft done soberly
 Tell hym thy name is Polyfy.

diuisiō. ¶ What the deuill meneſt thou by that
 Shuld I decembre from a wyld cat
 That euer before thys haue vſed patchyng 380
 And now to play the wife man & leauie ſcratching.

Iniuri. ¶ Why horſon it is a poynt of hye madnes
 For a tyme to deſemblle ſadnes,
 And though thou be all redy as mad as a harte
 Yet will I make thee madder then thou arte

diuisiō. ¶ Well ſay on then.

Iniuri. ¶ Mary then euuen thus I ſay
 When that to Albion thou haft taken thy way
 And done thy meffage as I thee bad
 He wyll for a while be penſife and ſad 390
 And hee will aſke thyne aduife
 Then muſt thou diſemblle thy ſelfe wyſe.

diuisiō. ¶ I make god a vowe that is vnoſſyble
 That I and wyſdome ſhuld knyt in one quyneble
 Or in my braine to print ſuch abuſyon
 That wyſdome and I ſhuld be in one concluſion
 For when I was yonge my mother charged mee
 And ſaid beware wyt fon though thou neuer thee.

Iniuri. ¶ & I am not diſpoſed to chaunge much your lyue
 But here me ſpeke an end though you neuer thriue 400
 diuisiō. ¶ Well ſay on then and tell mee what counſell
 I ſhall giue Albion that may found well
 To both our profits that wolde I know.

Iniuri. ¶ Thou ſhalt teche him a wronge croffe row
 And tell him beſt it is after thine aduife
 With myrth and Prodigalitie him to exercyſe
 And take of his owne good while he maye
 Left all at laſt be brybid awaye

For

375 a ſhamed, *sic.*
 harmony. 394 .quyneble, *i.e.* quinible, *a part in music, hence*

TEMPERANCE AND HUMILITY

A FRAGMENT OF A MORALITY PRINTED C. 1530.

LIKE *Albion Knight* the fragment printed below is preserved at Chatsworth. It consists of a single leaf which has obviously come out of a binding. It is now bound up as though it formed part of *Albion Knight*, though it is not included either in Collier's transcript or edition of that play. It was, however, known to him, for it is both described and quoted in a note in his *History of Dramatic Poetry* (1831, ii. 370), where he writes : 'Mr. Douce has a single leaf of an interlude, which may possibly have been part of the same production [i. e. *Albion Knight*] ; it is marked with the signature A iij, and the persons engaged in the dialogue are Humility, Temperance, and Disobedience.' A glance at the facsimiles here given will show any one familiar with sixteenth-century typography that the present fragment is a generation or so the elder of *Albion Knight*, so that there can be no question of their being parts of the same edition ; while the signature-title 'Tempe.' which Collier apparently overlooked or ignored, or perhaps mistook for a catch-word, removes all probability, if not all possibility, of the two fragments representing different editions of the same play. This signature-title is a distinctive feature, occurring, so far as the editor is aware, in plays from the presses of de Worde, Pynson, and Skot alone. The present fragment seems to agree most closely with the work of the first of these, but no conclusive test can be applied.

The following note, kindly communicated by Professor Alois Brandl, is of interest as showing how conflicting different classes of evidence may be. The leaf, he writes, 'is a very interesting fragment of a political morality, which, as far as I

remember the printed plays, is not preserved. I should think it belongs to the same time and group as *Respublica*. There was not much reason to complain of disobedience in religious matters until the succession of Mary. The allusion to the disobedient that are "royally provided of land and of fee" may refer to the nobility as enriched by church property under Henry VIII. This would point to a catholic author.¹⁴ But unless the typographical evidence is wholly misleading the fragment must be much older than the reign of Mary.

Of how the fragment formerly in the possession of Douce found its way to Chatsworth there seems to be no record, but doubtless Collier was the intermediary. In the quotations given in his *History* he perfects l. 28 '[Th]us' and l. 52 'wolde [go]' (sic).

- mo vertues that bled sholde be
 & they be banished as fereth me
Peaſeſ W^eſ I bydde you & come whan I call Disobeſ.
 I am royally prouyded of lande and office
 Roble Disobedience of myght moost potencyall
 Yet wolde I be called by name due prosperiteſ
 Wholde I be obedient to the superlatyfe degre
 Ne yet to no creature that lyuethe in londe
 Sythe I am fre I wyl neuer be bonde
CThat may ye repente ſhall vnderſtande
EChoyde take thou this noſte of my hande
CYe beto blamē ſo for to do
 Colſnyte ſo haſtelyle it is your shame
 It was but good he ſayd you to
 Thus to be ſo woþe ye be to blame
CTell me what thou art caſted by name
TMy name is Tempeſtance
 That neuer dyde greuaunce
 Do man nor chyde
CNow I haue hym ſuite to þyngage perturbance Humilitate
 To he wrochte to goddes dyſpleaunce
 But euer make answe to me
CWhas make ye in thiſ countrie
 your warke is al in vanyte
 pe can not preueaſte
 And obteyn obediencie
 With aduertisement preſence
 And wyl haue a ple
 Court in contry and in many a contry
 At every ordre we wyl be preſent
 And auoyd anytage
Tempeſtance

Tempeſt
 Disobeſtance
 Humilitate
 Disobeſtance
 Tempeſtance

- disobe.** **C**an I holde tell all I thynke in myn
for dothe spuall and repozall foloweth oure lorde
And aker us wyl do
- disobe.** **C**God it amende and it besy
is for religiouse I trust in dede
That obeyence with them shal go
Cis may they soone stande in drede
- disobe.** **C**That is not so as god mespede
For the poorest nothe in a place
Wyl lacke bothe loue and drede
And rebell in wordes they wyl a pace
- disobe.** **C**This tale to here it is a pyceous case
God banyshe this byce from this countre
And restore obeyence to euer y place
That euer y creature may knowe his dege
And euer to dwel with humylite
Than grace wyl folowe byce to exchell
And euer man to his malice wold be trewe
- disobe.** **C**That wyl they never byc were Jesu
CI wolde fro this place that thou wold
And remembre thy myllye þ thou hast in myng
for moche is the sorowe that thou hast do
And all disobedience thou hast in brought
- disobe.** **C**Many is the person thou hast put in thoug
And banysched humylite. Bothe loue and pr
In wytull herres sore thou art saught
That thou hast troubled many a noble pris
- disobe.** **C**And many mo I wyl brunge to that ca
audacite and my brother aduersyte
With the counterfayt name of prosperite

-] mo vertues that vfed sholde be
le they be banysshed as fereth me
- ¶ Peas whā I bydde you & come whan I call Disobe.
I] am royally prouyded of lande and of fe
Noble Disobedyence of might moost potencyall
Yet wolde I be called by name due prosperyte
Sholde I be obedient to the superlatyfe degré
Ne yet to no creature that lyueth in londe
Sythe I am fre I wyll neuer be bonde
- 10 ¶ That may ye repent ye shall vnderstante Tempe.
¶ Chorle take thou this nowe of my hande Disobe.
¶ Ye be to blame so for to do Humilite
To smyte so hastely it is your shame
It was but good he sayd you to
Thus to be so wrothe ye be to blame
¶ Tell me what thou art called by name Disobe.
¶ My name is Temperaunce Tempe.
That neuer dyde greuaunce
To man nor chylde
- 20 ¶ And I am Humylite suffryng perturbaunce Humilite
] to be wrothe to goddes dyspleaunce
But euer meke and mylde
¶ What make ye in this countre Disobe.
your warke is all in vanyte
ye can not preuayle
Ajudacyte and dysobedience
wþith Aduersytees prefence
] us wyll we rayle
] court / in constry and in many a couent
30 In] euery order we dwell present
o] duely we assayle
 Tempe.
- a.ijj.

- So many foloweth now our intent
 And I sholde tell all I sholde be shent
 For bothe spüall and tēporall foloweth our ca[
 And after vs wyll do
- Tempe. ¶ God it amende and it be so
 As for religyous I trust in dede
 That obedyence with them shall go
 Els may they foone stande in drede
- Difobe. ¶ That is not so as god me spede
 For the poorest nowe in a place
 wyll lacke bothe loue and drede
 And rebell in wordes they wyll a pace
- Humilite ¶ This tale to here it is a pyteous case
 God banyfſhe this vyce from this countre
 And restore obedyence to euery place
 That euery creature may knowe his degre
 And euer to dwell with Humylite
 Than grace wyll folowe vyce to exchewe
 And every man to his maister wolde be trewe
- Disobe. ¶ That wyll they neuer by fwete Iefu
- Tempe. ¶ I wolde fro this place that thou wold [
 And remembre thy myſſe þ thou haſt wrought
 For moche is the forowe that thou haſt do
 And all diſobedience thou haſt in brought
- Humilite ¶ Many is the person thou haſt put in thought
 And banyfſhed Humylite / with loue / and po[
 In wylfull hertes fore thou art fought
 That thou haſt troubled many a noble plac[
- ſobe. ¶ And many mo I wyll bringe to that cas[
 Audacyte and my brother aduerſyte
 with the counterfayt name of proſperyte

34 ca, the c doubtful. 49 exchewe, sic, final e doubtful. 53 wrought,
 the t doubtful. 56 thought, final t doubtful. 57 po, doubtful. 59 plac,
 the c doubtful. 60 cas, the s doubtful.

JAMES I AT OXFORD IN 1605

THE following documents, which are now printed for the first time, are preserved in the Oxford University Archives (P. Fascic. 5. 3). They were transcribed by permission of the late Keeper, the Rev. T. Vere Bayne, while photographs have also been obtained through the kindness of his successor, Mr. Reginald Lane Poole. They relate to plays performed by members of the University before King James, who was accompanied by the Queen and the young princes, Henry and Charles, during his visit to Oxford from 27 to 31 August 1605.

A detailed account of the visit, by Philip Stringer, Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, survives at the British Museum in MS. Harl. 7044 (ff. 201, &c.), and has been printed by Nichols (*Progresses of James I*, 1828, i. 530), while another account will be found in Isaac Wake's *Rex Platonicus* (1607). Great preparations were made for the King's entertainment by plays and disputations. 'Stages, seats and scaffolds' were set up in St. Mary's Church and in Christ Church Hall, and 'for the better contriving and furnishing' of these 'they entertained two of his Majesties Master Carpenters, and they had the advice of the Comptroller of his Works'. Inigo Jones was also paid a large sum to furnish 'rare devices'. The Lord Chamberlain himself, the Earl of Suffolk, came down on 22 August to inspect the arrangements, and insisted on important alterations being made. Further, that the plays might be produced in a manner befitting the royal presence, apparel and 'furniture' were specially hired from London, and sent back as soon as the visit was ended.

It is with this apparel and furniture that the following docu-

ments are directly concerned. They are inventories of costumes and properties, including in one case the receipts for payment. But their relation to one another is not altogether clear. Those marked A and A¹ below are to a large extent duplicates. A may possibly be a list of requirements, and A¹ of articles delivered. B and B¹ are also duplicates so far as the goods received from 'm'. Kendall' on 20 August are concerned. But though this date is later than the latest in A¹, many of the properties mentioned seem identical with those in the previous lists. C consists entirely of articles of apparel, and is apparently a detailed inventory of the '20 loose garments . . . for nymphes' and other dresses mentioned in lists A and A¹.

Though some of the points raised cannot be definitely settled, it is yet very interesting to learn that Edward Kirkham and Thomas Kendall supplied properties for the Oxford performances. Kirkham had been Yeoman of the Revels since 28 April 1586. But on 20 April 1602, he and Kendall, who was a London haberdasher, together with others, became partners with Henry Evans, the lessee of the Blackfriars Theatre, where the Children of the Chapel performed (Fleay, *History of the Stage*, 224; C. W. Wallace, *Children of the Chapel*, 87-9; E. K. Chambers, *Court Performances*, in *Mod. Lang. Rev.*, iv. 157). On 31 January 1604 the name of the company was changed to the Children of the Queen's Revels. It would therefore appear to have been from the stage-properties of this company that the garments and 'furniture' were hired for the use of the University. Legal documents apart, the present seem to be the only known papers in which the names of Kendall and Kirkham occur together.

Mathew Fox appears to be otherwise unknown, and was probably merely the agent for the delivery of the goods. Bernard Banger, who made the payments on behalf of the University, was the chief Esquire Bedell. He had matriculated at New College on 9 February 1581/2, had taken his B.C.L. on 16 June 1601, and had been elected Bedell on 7 August the same year. He held office till 10 March 1614/5 (*Register of the*

University of Oxford, ed. A. Clark, 1887, ii. 2. 116, i. 257, 3. 230).

To the historian of the drama as distinct from the stage, the main interest of these documents lies in the light they throw upon the lost play *Alba*, performed before James on the first evening of his visit. The pieces represented on the following evenings were *Ajax Flagellifer*, Matthew Gwynne's *Vertumnus*, and Daniel's *Arcadia Reformed*, afterwards published as the *Queen's Arcadia*. The last two are, of course, extant, while *Ajax Flagellifer*, though lost, must have been a version of the Sophoclean tragedy, or at least have had a similar plot. With the exception of the items mentioned at the end of B¹ as having been brought specially for the *Arcadia* 'vppō m̄ Daniels t̄res', the properties appear to have been hired for the performance of *Alba*, since none of the characters mentioned in the lists are known to have appeared in the other plays. Stringer, in his account of the festivities, describes *Alba* as 'a Pastoral much like one which I have seen in King's Colledge in Cambridge' (Nichols, ut sup., i. 547), but he does not say whether it was in Latin or English. A strong argument for supposing Latin to have been the language is that we find the *Arcadia* specifically described as 'the English Pastoral'. Another argument pointing in the same direction is that the Cambridge play mentioned by Stringer has been usually identified with the Latin translation of Guarini's *Pastor Fido* acted at King's College and preserved at Cambridge in manuscripts in the University and Trinity Libraries (Greg, *Pastoral Drama*, 406). Too much reliance, however, should not be placed on this identification. It is noticeable that Stringer (Nichols, ut sup., i. 553) afterwards mentions the King's College 'Fidus Pastor' as the source of Daniel's *Arcadia*. Hence he may have been alluding to some other 'Pastoral' as akin to *Alba*. Moreover the details we are able to learn about *Alba* from the present documents do not suggest any very close resemblance with Guarini's play. The subject of *Alba* was evidently drawn in part at least from classical mythology, for it introduced Neptune, Apollo, Pan,

and 'old Nestor' among its characters. • There also figured in it eight or ten kings, twenty nymphs, four 'Heremites', ten satyrs, three 'sylvanes', six morris-dancers, a magician, and an old woman, besides other characters less clearly distinguished—altogether a very comprehensive cast. Stringer, whose narrative has an acid flavour throughout, states that 'they brought in five or six men almost naked, which were much disliked by the Queen and Ladies'. Probably these included the 'sylvanes', whose 'suites of greene close to the bodye' may have suggested nudity. The 'many rusticall songes and dances', which proved so tedious that it needed the united efforts of the Chancellors of Oxford and Cambridge to prevent James from leaving before the comedy was half over, were doubtless contributed by the satyrs and nymphs, and by the morris-dancers decked in suits 'all lyke with garters of bels, 2 for everye on'. As we read the present documents with their detailed record of the expenses and pains lavished on the preparations, we realize how grievously disappointed the scholars must have been when the play failed to please the royal visitors.

The General Editor has been kind enough to check the text of the documents, and also to make himself responsible for most of the annotations.

F. S. BOAS.

[A]

- × 2: Longe White Beardes and hayres, the one in lockes for à sea god, the other for old nestor downe to the gyrdle.
- × 1. fflexen or yellowe hayre to the shoulders, for Apollo.
- × 20. Tuckes & Tresses of hayre to hange loose of browne, black, fflexen or anye coulors, for 20 nymphes.
- × 1. longe black beard and hayre vncurled for à magitian.
- 20. ffachions of Antique fashions. 4. pvyded.
- ⊕ 8 Rich Robes for Kinges of cloth of glold or embrodered velvett.
- ⊕ 20. mantles of severall coulors. 10 pvyded. 10
- 2. blacke robes the one of Saten or sylke th'other of velvett.
- 2. or 3. blacke saten habitys wth or wthout sleeves, to gyerte close vnder Robes. 1 pvyded
- ⊕ 4. Rich garments loose for women of gold, Tissue, or the best can be gotten.
- 12 p 20 loose garments of severall coulors of sylke and saten vided for nymphes.
- × 1. huntinge suite of greene.

The text of these documents covers twelve pages altogether. The body of the text appears to be written entirely in one hand, but since the scribe made the entries at various times with any pen that came handy, the appearance of the writing varies very considerably. Note has been made of the apparent changes. Interlineations and additions are noted: deletions are indicated by brackets.

2 à, a peculiarity of the scribe which appears in several varieties of the hand (cf. ll. 31, 45, 74, 108, 178).

5 coulors, u inserted.

7 ffachions, falchions.

7, 10, 14, 17-18. The notes of numbers provided are later additions.

8 glold, sic. 15 Tissue, fine silk, sometimes shot with gold.

- x 6. Suites for morrice dancers all lyke wth garters of bels. 20
 - i. loose Heremits gowne of browne or black cloth.
 - i. habite for an old woman loose and blacke.
- x 10. goates beards and pols of short hayre of goates color for Satyres.
 - 3 suites of greene close to the bodye for sylvanes.
- x one cassock of crimson velvett wth twist of gold.
- x one cosseck of cloth of gold lyned wth purple saten.
- x one cosseck of cloth of Tyssue, [lyned] carnatiō ground lyned wth crimsen saten.
- x one casseck of cloth of gold ground purple, embrodered 30 round wth à border of purple velvet & sylv^r lyned part wth saten and part wth taffatye
- x one cape cloake of cloth of sylv^r stripped wth white velvett embrodered wth two gards of white velvett round about of gold lyned wth white velvett.
- x Itē one cape cloake purple cloth of gold embrodered wth one gard of purple velvett wth gold round about lyned wth purple velvett

[Endorsed] For the Playes at y^e Kinges comminge. 1605.

[A¹]

- 2 long white beards and hayres the one in lockes for a sea 40 god, the other for old nestor to the girdle.
- 1 flexen or yellowe hayre to the shoulders for Apollo

²⁰ *morrice*, originally written *morris* and altered.

²⁶ page 2. The hand changes, becoming much more rapid. *cassock*, a long loose cloak.

³⁰ *casseck*, interlined.

³¹ *d*, this peculiarity shows the hand to be the same.

³⁴ *gards*, bands or stripes. *of white velvett*, interlined.

³⁶ *embrodered*, a large blot between the *o* and the first *d*.

⁴⁰ page 3. The hand changes again, a thicker pen being used.

Tuckes and Tresses of hayre to hange lose browne
black flexen and all colors for 20 nymphes.

1 long black beard and hayre vncurreled for à magitiā
fachions of Antique fashiō 20. or 30. or 40.

8 or 10. rich robes for Kings of cloth of gold or embrodered
velvett. wthout sleaves to hange onlye downe behind.

20 mantles of severall coulors.

2. black robes one of velvett thother of saten or sylke. 50

2 or 3 black saten habity to gyrd [to the] close vnder robes.

4. rich garments lose for womē of gold tyssue or the best
can be gott

20 lose garments of severall colors sylke and saten for
nymphes.

1. hunting suite of greene.

[Apparell for sheppards long r]

6 suites for morrice dancers all lyke wth garters of bels.
2 for everye one.

1 lose Hermits gowne of browne or black cloth. or other- 60
wyse.

1 habit for an old womā lose & black.

for 10 satyrs. goates beards and pols of short hayre of
goates color.

for 2 or 3 woode mē vel sylvanes. suites greene close to the
bodye.

120 torches.

120 Tapers, or waxe candles

60 pownd of cotton candles. dutch lyghts. a yeare old yf
maie be. 70

45 à, showing the hand to be the same. 46 fachions, cf. l. 7.

47 or 10., interlined. 48 wthout . . . behind, a later addition.

50 one, interlined.

63 page 4. 65 vel sylvanes, interlined. 67 The hand changes.

69 cotton candles, candles with cotton wicks. dutch lyghts, apparently not
recorded.

lether for 20 payre of buskins.

Plumes of feathers. of necessitye.

6 payre of longe stokings of severall colors to sett vp wth
a short hose.

1 foote cloth.

delyvered mathew ffox. att the signe of the ffox in the old
Bayley—xx^s

Receaved the some of xx^s of
Bernard Banger in
part [] payment.

by me mathew ffox

80

Receaved of Bernard Banger the 16th of August 1605 in
part of payment for the lending of furniture to furnishe
the playes att Oxford 36^s I saye receaved

by me Thomas Kendall

Receaved more in part of payment 24^s the 17th} 24
of August .. by me Thomas Kendall—— }

[B]

of m^r Kyrkhā.

xx Syxe antique suites of cloth of gold

xx Syxe payre of breeches 3 of cloth of gold three of sylv^r.

xx Syxe capps of cloth of gold wth white feathers. 1 wanting.

90

71 lether, I altered from f.

76 The hand changes again.

80 A large blot probably conceals the word of.

81 me mathew ffox, autograph.

82-7 The words by me Thomas Kendall in ll. 85 and 87 are autograph: the rest of the entries seems to be in the hand of the scribe, who would appear therefore to have been Banger himself.

86 page 5.

88 page 6.

91 I waning., later addition.

- xx One Robe for Apollo of cloth of Tissue blewe.
- xx Three mantles of cloth of gold Orenge coulor.
- xx Three mantles of cloth of sylv^r branched wth purple and Orenge tawnye
- xx 2 mantles of carnatiō and sylv^r branched

18th of August.
• of m^r Kendall the 20th of August 1605.

- xx one hunting suite of green embroidered lyke starrs.
- xx 8 green Robes of taffatye waved with frenge 100
- x [x] 1 orenge tawnye and] white Robe of Taffatye. *habet.
- xx 1 clodye taffatye Robe of severall colors of [taffatye].
- [10 heads and sixe beards for satyrs.]
- xx 14. Antique vizardy.
- xx 20 long hayres for nimphes
- xx 2 mens hayres the one for Apollo th'other blacke.
- xx 1 blewe hayre and beard for neptune.
- xx 1 blacke smooth hayre and beard for à magitiā.
- xx 1 white hayre and beard for nestor
- xx 1 Rounde white hayre. 110
- xx 2 heremits beardes the on graye thother white. white deest
- xx 3 beards one Red one blacke thother flexen.
- xx 10. satyers heads & berds [th'one] and one suite for Pan.
- xx 14. Antique vizardy.

Received more of m^r Kyrkhā the : 20th of August
1605.

- x Inp^r foure vpper garments of sea green saten wth sleeves.
- x Itē foure payre of [green] wachet bases, all lymned.
- x Itē foure payre of sea green bases all lymmed. 1 wanting.

98 Line inserted later. 101 *habet.*, later addition.

111 *white deest*, later addition.

115 page 7.

118 *wachet*, i. e. watchet, pale blue. bases, skirts of a doublet.

119 *I wanting*, later addition.

Receaved more of m^r Kendall
the 26th of August 1605.

- x 14 vizard^s
- x 7 longe hayres
- x 4 berds

120

[B¹]

Receaved of m^r Kendall to the vse of
the vniversitye of Oxford the 20th of
August 1605. these thing^s followinge.

Inp^r one Hunting suite of greene embro-
dered wth sylv^r stars.

Itē eyght greene Robes of Taffatye
waved wth ffrenge.

130

Itē one Orenge Tawnye Robe of Taffata

Itē one Robe of cloudye taffata of
severall coulors

Itē one suite of goates skinnes for Pan

Itē 28 Antique vizard^s

Itē 20 longe hayres for nymphes.

Itē 2 mens hayres the one for Apollo the other
black

Itē one blewe hayre and beard for neptune

140

Itē one black smoth hayre & berd for à magitian.

Itē one white hayre & beard for nestor

Itē one Rounde white hayre.

Itē fyve other beards of severall coulors

Itē Ten Satyres heady and berds

Itē 4 other beards for Heremity

Brought more by m^r Kendall for the
Englysh Pastorall vppō m^r Daniels
ires []

Inp^r 4 Sheppard^s coates of Taffata of severall
coulors.

150

Itē 7 Hatty of Taffata.

Itē 7 Sheepe Hookes.

Itē 3 velvett nightcaps with borders of hayre.

Itē one yellowe Taffata Robe.

[C]

- 1 Inp^r one Iupe and safegard of murrey saten imbrodered over wth gold & sylv^r
- 2 Itē on round Kirtle of Ashecoulor Satē imbrodered all over wth gold & sylv^r
- 3 Itē on round Kirtle of Tawnye satyn imbrodered all over 160 wth gold and sylv^r lyke wheate eares.
- 4 Itē on Kirtle of peace coulor saten embrodered wth gold and sylver & coulored sylke lyke greate branches.
- 5 Itē on round Kirtle of cloth of gold of Turkye worke.

- 1 Itē on lose gowne of carnatiō saten abowtye strip wth sylv^r.
- 2 Itē one lose gowne [wth] of white sylv^r tabine wth workes lyke dropps & flower deluces.
- 3 Itē on lose garment of white spanish Tafatyē wth workes lyke slyps of gold sylv^r colored & sylke.
- 4 Itē on lose gowne of carnatiō vncutt velvett florished all 170 ov^r wth sylv^r.

- 1 Itē one lose gowne of Ashcoulor saten florished all ov^r wth sylv^r lyke flames
- 2 Itē on lose gowne of Isabella coulor saten laced round wth sylv^r lace lyke clouds

156 page 10. *Iupe*, a loose tunic or kirtle. *safegard*, an outer skirt, or protection. *murrey*, purple-red.

162 *peace*, for *peach*. 165 *abowtye strip*, for striped about?

166 *tabine*, a kind of silk?, cf. l. 184.

169 *slyps*, sprays? cf. ll. 181, 201. *colored*, interlined in the wrong place.

172 *all*, interlined. 174 *Isabella coulor*, greyish yellow.

- × 3. Itē on lose gowne of sylv^r chambled wth [gold] great branches of gold
- × 4. Itē on lose gowne of murrey saten cutt and cuffed wth à narrowe border embrodered round about wth gold & sylv^r

- × Itē on lose gowne of black saten embrodered all ov^r wth 18 gold and sylver lyke slyps of Roses
- × Itē on lose gowne of Bee color velvett embrodered all ov^r wth Oaes of gold and sylv^r wth 27 buttons.
- × Itē on lose gowne of sylv^r Tabine with workes of hayre color velvett faced wth orange color and white spotted shag.
- × Itē on lose gowne of pinck colored saten wth à gold and sylv^r spang lace round about
- × Itē a longe cloake of Hayre colored saten lyned wth ash color plushe.
- × Itē one mantle wth à Trayne of white Tiffanye stripe wth sylv^r & workes of colors lyke clouds
- × Itē on lose gowne of Ash color nett worke florished all ov^r wth gold and sylv^r and some small black bugles wthout sleeves.
- × Itē on lose gowne of sylv^r Tynsell printed wth flowers all ov^r of sylke of needle worke.
- × Itē on lose gowne of black nett worke florished all ov^r wth gold & sylv^r and workes lyke fethers wthout sleeves.
- × Itē on lose gowne of black nett worke florished all ov^r wth 20 sylver in workes lyke [brances] slypes

176 *Itē*, sic. *chambled*, i.e. camlet. *great*, interlined, crossed out, and interlined again.

177 *on, n* doubtful. 180 page 11.

182 *Bee color*, black and yellow?

183 *Oaes*, i.e. o's, spangles, cf. l. 209. *sylv^r*, altered from *saten*.

184-5 *hayre color*, brown?, cf. l. 189. 186 *shag*, rough silk cloth?

188 *spang*, spangle. 194 *bugles*, glass beads.

197 *sylke of*, interlined. 198 *nett*, interlined.

- < Itē on lose gowne of color de roye, nett worke floreshed downe right wth waves of gold.
- < Itē on lose gowne of black nett worke florished all ov^r wth gold and sylv^r and sylv^r buttons.
- < Itē on dublett of pinck colored nett worke florished wth gold and sylv^r and workes of sylke lyke byrds and fyshes.
- < Itē on dublett of white taffatye cutt all ov^r embroidered wth gold and sylv^r lyke roses & pances & sylv^r oaes.
- < Itē one dublett of Orenge colored saten embroidered all ov^r 210 wth sylv^r and drawen out wth white tyffanye.
- < Itē one dublett of white saten stripe with gold [lace] plate all over.

This stuff to be folded vp wth the threed not agaynst the threed.

[Endorsed] A note of players apparell.
at K. Iames being here

²⁰² color de roye, i.e. *couleur de roy*, bright tawny (Cotgrave, 1611).

²⁰⁶ page 12. ²¹⁰ all, interlined. ²¹¹ *tyffanye*, a thin silk.

²¹⁷ *being*, reading doubtful. *here*, possibly a later addition.

ROYAL PATENTS FOR PLAYERS

Most, but not all, of the fourteen theatrical patents here reproduced have been printed before in some form or other. The present texts are taken uniformly from the Patent Rolls, with the exception of No. III, which is an unexecuted draft, and No. XIII, which is not known to have been enrolled. Since some writers on the stage do not appear to be very familiar with the diplomatic processes involved in the issue of Letters Patent, as regulated in its main outlines by the Act of 1535 (27 Hen. VIII, c. 11), it may be as well to explain that there were as a rule seven stages. The proceedings began with (*a*) a Petition by or on behalf of the interested party, setting out the substance and sometimes the terms of the grant desired. If the request was granted (*b*) a direction was given by the Sovereign for the preparation of (*c*) a King's Bill. In this the wording of the intended patent was settled, and this wording was followed, with varying initial and final *formulae*, in the subsequent instruments. The King's Bill received the Royal Sign Manual and was then sent to the Signet Office, as the authority for the preparation of (*d*) a Signet Bill. This was addressed by one of the Clerks of the Privy Signet to the Lord Privy Seal, as the authority for (*e*) a Writ of Privy Seal, which was addressed to the Lord Chancellor and became in its turn the authority for the preparation of (*f*) the actual Letters Patent under the Great Seal. These were delivered to the persons in whose favour they were issued, but the Writ of Privy Seal passed on to the Six Clerks in Chancery, who made (*g*) an Enrolment of its contents on the Patent Rolls. For full accounts of the whole business and its historical origin, *vide*

S. R. Scargill-Bird, *A Guide to the Public Records* (ed. 3), 80, and H. Hall, *Studies in English Official Historical Documents*, 263. It will be seen that the contents of a patent can be ascertained indifferently from (c), (d), (e), (f), or (g), always provided that the process was not, as sometimes happened, 'stayed' before the Letters were issued, and that the Six Clerks did not, as also sometimes happened, omit the Enrolment. In practice the chief sources of information are the Patent Rolls, when a reference can be obtained to the right one of the many concurrent 'parts' for the regnal year, and the Signet Bills, of which many are preserved in the Record Office. The actual Letters Patent, of course, passed out of official custody. It should be added that books were kept, both in the Signet Office and in the Privy Seal Office, in which a Docquet or *précis* was entered of each patent passing through the office, and that these Docquet Books sometimes afford a clue to the patents which exist or must have existed. A nominal index to these Docquets for the years 1584-96 and 1601-24 is printed by W. P. W. Phillimore, *Signet Bills and Privy Seals* (*British Record Society, Index Library*, iv).

The patents here printed are all licences authorizing the performances in and out of London of particular companies of players, with the exception of No. xi, which is a licence for the erection of a theatre. The references to the Patent Rolls were taken from vol. xxxvi of the series of manuscript notes known as *Palmer's Indexes*. No attempt has been made to supplement these by a systematic search of the Rolls, but a comparison with Phillimore's index does not suggest that there are any obvious omissions, at any rate for the years covered by the index. The two warrants under the Signet included in an Appendix do not appear to have led up to patents. There is only one Elizabethan example in the series, but at present there is no reason to suppose that the experiment tried in favour of Leicester's men in 1574 was repeated for any other company during the reign. On the other hand all the Jacobean companies are accounted for, with the exception of the Children of

the King's Revels. There is evidence (cf. *Modern Language Review*, iv. 161) that this company had a patent, and I think it must be somewhere on the Rolls during 1606 or 1607. But I cannot spot any likely name in Phillipmore's index under which the Signet Bill might be entered. I have also printed the one Caroline patent for which I had a reference. The list in V. C. Gildersleeve, *Government Regulation of the English Drama*, 234, suggests that there must be others. I must refer to Miss Gildersleeve's valuable essay and to my own *Notes on the History of the Revels Office under the Tudors* for discussions throwing light on the object and authority of the licences. The General Editor has been good enough to make himself responsible for checking the accuracy of the texts.

E. K. G.

August 1, 1909.

T

[1574, May 10. Licence for the Earl of Leicester's players (*Patent Roll*, 16 Elizabeth, part 9). This was printed from a copy of the entry on the Patent Roll preserved amongst Rymer's papers in *Sloane MS. 4625* by Steevens, *Shakespeare* (1773), ii. 156, and therefrom in *Variorum*, iii. 47. This text omits the words 'oure Citie of london and ltties of the same as also within' (l. 21). Collier, *H. E. D. P.* (1879), i. 203, and Hazlitt, *English Drama and Stage*, 25, printed the Signet Bill, erroneously describing it as the Privy Seal, from the State Paper Office. This has the omitted words, and Collier, as the present transcript shows, correctly explains the omission in Steevens's text as due to an inaccurate copyist, pointing in proof to the words 'in oure said Citye of london' (l. 34). This did not, however, prevent Mr. Fleay (*Chronicle History of the London Stage*, 45) from asserting that in the Patent 'an alteration had been made from the Privy Seal', on the ground that its terms 'infringed on the powers of the City authorities'. Such an alteration not merely did not take place, but would have been a diplomatic impossibility, as the Patent Roll was made up, not from the Letters Patent, but from the Privy Seals on which these were based.]

p Iacobo Burbage Elizabeth by the grace of God quene
& al. de licen'spali of England &c To all Iustices Mayors
vnder Constables Sheriffes Baylyffes head Constables
and all other our officers and mynisters

gretinge. knowe ye that we of oure especiall grace c'ten knowledge and mere mocion haue licenced and auctorised and by these p'sentes do licence and auctorise oure lovinge Subiectes Iames Burbage Iohn Perkyn Iohn lanham wif'm Johnson and Roþte wilson seruauntes to oure trustie and welbeloued Cosen and Counseyllor the Earle of leycester to vse ex'cise and occupie the arte and facultye of playenge Comedies Tragedies Enterludes stage playes and such other like as they haue alredie vsed and studied or hereafter shall vse and studie aswell for the recreacion of oure loving subiectes as for oure solace and pleasure when we shall thincke good to see them As also to vse and occupie all such Instrumentes as they haue alredie practised or hereafter shall practise for and during our pleasure And the said Comedies Tragedies Enterludes and stage playes to gether with their musicke to shewe publishe ex'cise and occupie to their best conmoditie during all the terme aforesaide aswell within oure Citie of london and libties of the same as also within the libties and fredomes of anye oure Cities townes Bouroughes &c' whatsoeu' as without the same thoroughte oure Realme of England. willyngē and cōmaundingē yow and everie of yowe as ye tender our pleasure to pmytte and suffer them herein withoute anye yowre lettes hynderaunce or molestacion duringe the terme aforesaid Anye acte statute pclamacion or cōmaundement heretofore made or hereafter to be made to the cont'rie notwithstandinge Prouyded that the said Comedies Tragedies enterludes and stage playes be by the master of oure Revells for the tyme beyngē before sene & allowed And that the same be not published or shewen in the tyme of comon prayer or in the tyme of greate and comon plague in oure said Citye of london. In wytnes whereof &c' wytnes oure selfe at westm the xth daye of Maye. p þre de priuato sigillo

II

[1603, May 19. Licence for the King's players (*P. R. i Jac. I*, part 2). This was first printed from the Patent Roll by Rymer, *Foedera* (1715), xvi. 505. Collier, *H. E. D. P.* i. 334, first printed the text of the Signet Bill of May 17, which he took for the Privy Seal. Both documents, together with the entry of the Signet Bill in the Signet Office Docquet Book, the Privy Seal of May 19, and an entry in an old index, are given in Halliwell-Phillipps, *Illustrations of the Life of Shakespeare*, 83.]

Cōm' spial p
Laurencio fletcher &
Willō Shakespearē
et al./

Iames by the grace of god &c' To
all Iustices Maiors Sheriffys Constables
hedborowes and other our Officers and
louinge Subiecty greetinge knowē yee
that Wee of our speciall grace certeine

knowledge & mere motion haue licenced and auctorized and by
theise p'sentes doe licence and auctorize theise our Servauntys
lawrence fletcher Willm Shakespeare Richard Burbage
Augustyne Phillipes Iohn henings henrie Condell Willm
Sly Robt Armyn Richard Cowly and the rest of theire
Assosiates freely to vse and exercise the Arte and faculty of
playinge Comedies Tragedies histories Enterludes moralls
pastoralls Stageplaies and Suche others like as theie haue
alreadie studied or hereafter shall vse or studie aswell for
the recreation of our lovinge Subjecty as for our Solace and
pleasure when wee shall thincke good to see them duringe
our pleasure And the said Comedies tragedies histories
Enterludes Morrallys Pastoralls Stageplayes and suche like to
shewe and exercise publiquely to theire best Comoditie when
the infection of the plague shall decrease aswell within theire
nowe vsual howse called the Globe within our County of Surrey
as alsoe within anie towne halls or Moute halls or other
conveniente places within the libties and freedome of anie
other Cittie vniversitie towne or Boroughe whatsoeuer within
our said Realmes and domynions willinge and Commaundinge
you and everie of you as you tender our pleasure not onelie to

pmitt and suffer them herein without anie your letts hindrance or molestacions during our said pleasure but alsoe to be aidinge and assistinge to them yf anie wronge be to them offered And to allowe them such former Curtesies as hath bene given to men of theire place and quallitie and alsoe what further favour you shall shewe to theise our Servauntes for our sake wee shall take kindlie at your handes In wytnesse whereof &c' witnesse our selfe at westm̄ the nyntenth day of May

p̄ bre de priuato sigill &c'

III

[n. d. (c. 1604). Draft licence for Queen Anne's players (*S. P. Dom., Jac. I.*, ii. 100). This was printed by Collier, *H. E. D. P.* i. 336, and Halliwell-Phillipps, *Illustrations of the Life of Shakespeare*, 106, from the same MS. It is a rough draft full of deletions, which are marked by square brackets, and of additions, which are printed in italics, in the text. The wording resembles that of the licence for the King's men (No. ii), and the draft was probably prepared with a view to a Petition for a similar licence for the Queen's men. But no Patent appears to have been actually issued for this company until that of 1609 (No. vii). A provincial notice of the company (*Hist. MSS.* xi. 3. 26) records a warrant of 7 March 1606 from Anne herself, which they were using as their credentials. The present document has a modern pencil endorsement '1603 July'; but this date is too early. The company was still under the patronage of the Earl of Worcester when it came to Leicester on two occasions during Oct.-Dec. 1603. It had been taken over by the Queen before the coronation on 15 March 1604 (*N. S. S. Transactions*, 1877-9, 16*). The theory of Mr. Fleay that the document is a forgery is sufficiently disposed of by Mr. Greg, *Henslowe's Diary*, ii. 107.]

Iames by the grace of God kynge of England Scotland
ffraunce and Irelande, defender of the faith &c:/ To all Iustices
of peace Maiors Sherryfes vicechancello^{rs} of any our vni-
versities, Bailiffs [Constables] headboroughes, [and other our
officers] Constables And to all other o^r Officers mynisters

and lov[e]inge subiectes to whome it may appertaine Greeting, knowe yee that wee of our speciall grace, certaine knowledge, and mere motion: Haue lycensed and Awthorised, And by these p'nts doe lycence and awthorise Thomas Greene, Christopher Beeston, Thomas Hawood, Richard Pyrkyns, Robert Pallant Iohn Duke, Thomas Swynerton, I[e]ames Ho[u]lt, Robert Beeston: & Robert Lee: seruaunts vnto our dearest [and welbeloved] wyfe the Queene Anna: wth the rest of there Associates, freely to vse and exercise, the art and faculty of playinge Comedies, Tragedies, Histories, Enterludes, Morralls, Pastoralls, Stage plaies, and such other lyke as they haue already studied, or hereafter shall vse or stud[d]y as well for the recreacon of our lovinge subiects as for our solace and pleasure, when wee shall thinke good to see them during our pleasure And the said Comedies, Tragedies, Histories, Enterludes, Morralls, Pastoralls, Stage plaies, and such like, to shew and exercise publikly, when the infeçon of the plague shall decrease to the Nomber of thirty weekly wthin our Citiie of London And the liberties therof Aswell wthin there now vsuall Howsen, called the Curtayne, and the Bores head, wthin our County of Midd', [or] as in any other play howse not vsed by others, by the said Thomas Greene, elected, or by him hereafter to be builte And also wthin any Towne Halls, on Mouthalls, or other convenient places, wthin the liberties and freedomes of any Cittie, vniversitie, Towne, or Boroughe whatsoeu', wthin our said Realmes and domynyons: willing and Coñaudinge yo^w and eu'ie of yo^w, as you tender our pleasure, not only to permytt and suffer them [herein] to vse and exercise the said art of playinge wthout any yo^r Letts hinderaucys or molestaçons, durante our said pleasure: But also to be aydinge and assistinge vnto them, yf any wronge be to them offered, And to allow them such [former] curtesies, as hath heretofore bene given vnto any men of theire qualitie: [And also what further favour, any of our subiectes shall shew to theise our deare and loveinge wifes seruaunts, for our sake, wee shall take kyndly at your handes. Yeouen at the

daye of • In the yere of our Raygne of England: &c:/]
Gyuen &c

[Endorsed] The Quenes Plaiers

[¹⁴ Associates, the A altered from a. ¹⁵ Tragedies, the first e altered from i. ²⁰ Tragedies, ditto. ²⁸ on, sic for or. ³² Comaundinge, the m altered from m. ³⁸ theire, the ei altered from e.]

IV

[1604, February 4. Licence for the Children of the Queen's Revels (*P. R.* 1 *Jac. I*, pt. 8). This has not been printed before from the Patent Roll. Collier, *H. E. D. P. i.* 340, and Hazlitt, *E. D. S.* 40, print the Signet Bill, and misdescribe it as a Privy Seal. Collier gives the date as January 30, Hazlitt as January 31.]

D' licen' spāl p
Edrō kirkham et al
p le Revell dñe Regine.

Iames by the grace of God &c' To
all Mayors Shiriffes Iustices of Peace
Baliffes Constables and to all other
our officers mynisters and lovinge
Subiects to whome theis presents shall come greeting whereas
the Queene our deerest wief hath for her pleasure and recreaçon
when she shall thinke it fit to have any playes or shewes
appoynted her seruautes Edward kirkham Alexander hawkyns
Thomas kendall and Robert Payne to provyde and bring vppe
a convenient nomber of Children whoe shalbe called children
of her Revelles knowe ye that we have appointed and authorized
and by theis presentes doe authorize and appoynte the said
Edward kirkham Alexander hawkyns Thomas kendall and
Robert Payne from tyme to tyme to provide keepe and bring
vppe a convenient nomber of Children and them to practize and
exercise in the quality of playinge by the name of Children of
the Revells to the Queene within the Blackfryers in our Cytie
of london or in any other convenient place where they shall
thinke fit for that purpose wherefore we will and commaunde
and everie of you to whome it shall appertayne to permitt her

said Seruauntes to keepe a convenient nomber of Children by the name of Children of her Revells and them to exercise in the quality of playing according to her pleasure Provided allwaies that noe such Playes or Shewes shalbee presented before the saide Queene our wief by the said Children or by them any where publique lie acted but by the approbacion and allowaunce of Samuell Danyell whome her pleasure is to appoynt for that purpose And theis our Ires Patenty shalbe your sufficient warraunte in this behalfe. In witnes whereof &c' witnes our self at westm the fourth day of february.

p b're de priuat' sigillo &c'

[20 and, sic for you and.]

V

[1606, April 30. Licence for Prince Henry's players (*P. R. 4 Jac. I*, pt. 19). This was printed from the Patent Roll, misdescribed as a Privy Seal, and dated in error 1607, by T. E. Tomlins in the *Shakespeare Society's Papers*, iv (1849), 42. The Signet Bill is indexed under April, 1606, in Phillimore, *Index to Signet Bills*, 84.]

D' con' licenc' p Iames by the grace of God &c' To
 Thoma Downton & al. all Iustices Maiors Sheriffys bailiffys
 Constables headboroughes and other
 our officers and loving subiects greeting knowe ye that wee of
 our esp'iall grace certaine knowledge and meere mocion haue
 licenced and auctorized and by theis p'sentys doe licence and
 auctorize Thomas Downton Thomas Towne william Byrde
 Edwarde Iuby Samuell Rowle humfrey Ieffs Charles Massey
 and Anthonie Ieffs Seruauntes to our dearest sonne the Prince
 and the rest of theire Associates to vse and exercise the arte and
 facultie of playing Comedies Tragedies Histories Enterludes
 Moralls Pastoralls Stageplayes and such other like as they haue
 alreadie studied or hereafter shall vse or studie aswell for the

recreacion of our loving subiectes as for our solace and pleasure when wee shall thincke good to see them during our pleasure And the said Comedies Tragedies histories Enterludes Moralls pastoralls stageplaies and suche like to shewe and exercise publiquelie to their best Comoditie aswell within theire nowe vsuall house called the ffortune within our Countie of Midd, as alsoe within anie Towne halls or Moutehalls or other convenient places within the libertie and ffreedom of anie other Cittie vniversitie Towne or Boroughe whatsoeuer within our Realmes and Domynions willing and Comauinding you and everie of you as you tender our pleasure not onelie to permitt and suffer them herein without anie your letty hindraunces or molestacions during our saide pleasure but alsoe to be aiding and assiting vnto them yf anie wrong be to them offered And to allowe them such former curtesies as hath been given to men of theire place and quallitie And alsoe what further favour you shall shewe vnto them for our sake wee shall take kindelie at your handes Prouided alwaies and our will and pleasure ys that all auctoritie power priuiledges and pfitty whatsoeuer belonging and pperlie appertaining to the Maister of our Revells in respecte of his office and everie Clause article or graunte conteined within the fres patenty or Commission which haue heretofore been graunted or directed by the late Queene Elizabeth our deere Sister or by our selves to our welbeloued servantes Edmonde Tilney Maister of the office of our said Revells or to Sir George Bucke knighte or to either of them in possession or reversion shall be remayne and abide entire and in full force estate and vertue and in as ample sorte as yf this our Commission had never been made In witnesse whereof &c' witnesse our selfe at westm the Thirtith daie of Aprill.

ex
p bre de priuato sigillo &c'

[2 bailiffs, *interlined.*]

VI

[1609, April 15. Licence for Queen Anne's players (*P. R. 7 Jac. I*, pt. 39). This was printed from the Patent Roll, and misdescribed as a Privy Seal, by T. E. Tomlins in the *Shakespeare Society's Papers*, iv (1849), 45. The Signet Bill is indexed under April, 1609, in Phillimore, 104.]

D'con' licen Iames by the grace of God &c' To all
 Thome Greene Iustics Mayors Sheriffys Baylieffys Constables
 et al headborrowes and other our Officers and
 lovinge Subiectys Greetinge knowe yee that
 wee of our especiall grace c'tayne knowledge and meere moçon
 have lycenced and auctorised and by these p'sents doe lycence
 and auctorize Thomas Greene Christofer Beeston Thomas
 haywood Richard Pirkyns Richard Pallant Thomas Swinn'ton
 Iohn Duke Robt lee Iames haulte and Robte Beeston
 Servantz to our moste deereley beloved wifē Queene Anne and
 the reste of theire Associatys to vse and ex'cise the arte and
 faculty of playinge Comedies Tragedies historyes Enterludy's
 Morally Pastorally Stageplayes and suche other like as they
 have already studied or heareafter shall vse or studye aswell for
 the recreaçon of our loving Subiectys as for our solace and
 pleasure when wee shall thinke good to see them during our
 pleasure. And the said Comedies Tragedies histories Ent'ludes
 Morally Pastorally Stageplayes and suche like to shewe and
 ex'cise publicquely and openly to theire beste cōmoditye aswell
 within theire nowe vsuall houses called the Redd Bull in
 Clarkenwell and the Curtayne in hallowell as alsoe within anye
 Towne hallys Mouthally and other convenient placys within the
 libtye and freedome of any other Citty vniu'sitye Towne or
 Boroughe whatsoeuer within our Realmes and Domynions
 willing and Co'maundinge you and every of you as you tender
 our pleasure not only to pmitt and suffer them herein without
 any your letty hinderancy or molestaçons during our said
 pleasure but alsoe to be aydinge assistinge vnto them yf anye
 wronge be to them offered and to allowe them suche former

curtesies as hath byn given to men of theire place and qualite
 and alsoe what favoure you shall shewe to them for our sake
 wee shall take kyndly at your handys Prouided alwaies and
 our will and pleasure is that all auctoritee power priuiledgy
 and pfytty whatsoeu' belonginge and pply apptayninge to
 Master of Revelly in respecte of his Office and everye Cause
 Article or graunte contayned within the tres Patents or Commission
 which have byn heretofore graunted or directed by the late
 Queene Elizabeth our deere Sister or by our selues to our
 welbeloued Servant Edmond Tylney Master of the Office of
 our said Revelly or to Sir George Bucke knighte or to eyther of
 them in possession or revercon shalbe remayne and abyde
 entyer and full in effecte force estate and v'tue as ample sorte
 as if this our Commission had never byn made In witnes
 wherof &c' witnes our selfe at westm the fifteenth daye of
 Aprill. p b're de priuato sigillo &c' / ex

[²⁷ said, *interlined.*
for v'tue in as.]

28 aydinge, *sic for aydinge and.*

42 v'tue as, *sic*

VII

[1610, January 4. Licence for the Children of the Queen's Revels (*P. R.* 7 Jac. I, pt. 13). This has not, as far as I know, been printed in full before, but the material part of it is quoted by Ingleby, *A Complete View of the Shakspere Controversy*, 254. Ingleby also states that it appears from the Signet Office books that the warrant was obtained in December, 1609, by the influence of Sir Thomas Monson. His discussion of the matter is in connexion with a version of the licence forged by Collier, in which the names of the patentees are given as 'Robert Daborne Willm Shakespeare Nathaniel Field and Edward Kirkham'. The Signet Bill is indexed under December, 1609, in Phillimore, 103.]

D' con' Roþto Iames by the grace of God &c' To all Maiors
 Daborne & al. Sherifys Iustisys of peace Bayliffes Constables
 and to all other our Officers Ministers and
 loving Subiects to whome theis p'sents shall come Greeting
 whereas the Quene our deerest wyfe hathe for hir pleasure,

and recreaçon, when shee shall thinke it fitt to haue any Playes or Shewes appoynted hir servantȝ Robert Daborne Phillippe Rosseter Iohn Tarbock Richard Iones, and Robert Browne to prouide and bring vpp a convenient nomber of Children whoe shalbe called Children of hir Revells knowe ye that wee haue appoynted and authorised, and by theis p'sentȝ do authorize and appoynte the said Robert Daborne Phillip Rosseter Iohn Tarbuck Richard Iones and Robert Browne from tyme to tyme to pvide keepe and bring vpp a convenient nomber of children, and them to practice and ex'cise in the quality of playing, by the name of Children of the Revells to the Queene within the white ffryers in the Suburbs of our City of london, or in any other convenient place where they shall thinke fitt for that p'pose wherfore wee will and coñaund you and euery of you to whome it shall appertayne to pmitt her said s'uants to keepe a conuenient nomber of Children by the name of the Children of hir Revells, and them to ex'cise in the qualtye of playing according to hir pleasure, And theis our f'res patenty shalbe your sufficient warrant in this behaulfe. wittnes our self at westm', the ffourth daye of Ianuary. p b're de pr' sigill

[6 it fitt to, written over erasure.
written over erasure.]

to hir, interlined.

17 our Citty,

VIII

[1610, March 30. Licence for the Duke of York's players (*P. R. 8 Jac. I., pt. 8*). This was printed from the Patent Roll, and misdescribed as a Privy Seal, by T. E. Tomlins, in the *Shakespeare Society's Papers*, iv (1849), 47. The Signet Bill is indexed under March 1609 in Philiimore, 104.]

D' licen' agend
Traged &c' p Iohe
Garland & al

Iames by the grace of God &c' To all
Iustis Mayors Sheriffys Baylies Constables
hedborroughes and other our loveing
subiects and officers greetinge knowe ye
that wee of our especyall grace certen knowledge and meere

moçon haue lycensed and auctorized and by theis presents doe
lycence and authorise Iohn Garland Willyam Rowley Thomas
hobbes Robert Dawes Ioseph Taylor Iohn Newton and
Gilbert Reason alreadye sworne seruanty to our deere sonne
the Duke of york and Rothesay with the rest of their company
to vse and exercise the arte and quality of playing Comedyes
Tragedies histories Enterludes Morally Pastorally Stagplayes
and such other like as they haue already studdied or hereafter
shall studye or vse aswell for the recreacon of our loveing
subiects as for our solace and pleasure when wee shall thinke
good to see them and the said Enterludes or other to shewe
and execise publicquely to their best aduantage and coñoditie
aswell in and about our Cittye of london in such vsuall
howses as themselues shall provide, as alsoe within anye
Townehalls Mootehalls Guildhalls Schoolehowses or other con-
venient places within the lybertye and freedome of any other
Cittye vniversity Towne or Boroughe whatsoever within our
Realmes and Domynions, willing and comaundinge you and
everie of you as you tender our pleasure not onlye to pmitt
and suffer them herein without any your letts hindrauncy
molestaçons or disturbancys during our said pleasure, but alsoe
to be ayding and assisting vnto them if any wronge be vnto
them offered, and to allowe them such former curtesies as hath
byne given to men of their place and quality And alsoe what
further favor you shall shewe them for our sake wee shall
take yt kyndlye at your handes Prouided alwaies and our will
and pleasure is that all authority power priviledg and proffitt
whatsoever belonging and properly appteyninge to the Master
of our Revells in respect of his Office and everie article and
graunt contayned within the fres patents or Cõmission which
haue byne heretofore graunted or directed by the late Queene
Elizabeth our deere sister or by our selfe to our welbeloved
servants Edmond Tillney Master of the said Office of the said
Revells or to Sir George Bucke knight or to eyther of them
in possession or Revercon shall remayne and abyde entire and
in full force estate and vertue and in as ample sort as if this our

Cōmission had never bene made witnes our selfe att westm' the thirtith daye March p̄ bre de priuato sigillo &c' Ex^r

[17 excise, *sic.*

20 final s added later in each case.

30 shall, *interlined.*]

IX

[1611, April 27. Licence for the Lady Elizabeth's players (*P. R. 9 Jac. I*, pt. 20). The company appeared at Bath during the year ending October 12, 1611 (B. S. Penley, *The Bath Stage*, 14), and also, if the date in *Hist. MSS.* ix. 1. 252 is correct, about which I am not at all sure, at Ipswich on May 28, 1611. The names of Townsend and Moore appear with those of other players in a bond to Henslowe dated August 29, 1611, for the performance of certain unrecorded Articles, of which two copies exist at Dulwich (*Henslowe Papers*, 18, 111). Mr. Greg (*Henslowe's Diary*, ii. 137) is proved by the present document to be right in accepting Mr. Fleay's identification of these signatories with the Lady Elizabeth's men.]

D' licenc' spial p James by the grace of god &c' To all
 Iohe Townsend & Iustices Maiors Sheriffys Bailiffys Con-
 Iosepho Moore & al stables hēdborroughes and other our
 lovinge Subiecty and officers greetinge
 knowe ye that wee of our especiall grace certayne knowledge
 and meere mocon have licenced and authorised and by these
 p'sente do licence and authorize Iohn Townsend and Joseph
 Moore sworne s'ventes to our deere daughter the ladie
 Elizabeth with the rest of theire Companie to vse and exercise
 the Arte and qualitie of playinge Comedies histories Enterludes
 Morralls pastoralls stage playes and such other like as they
 haue alreadie studied or hereafter shall studie or vse aswell for
 the recreaçon of our lovinge Subiecty as for our solace and
 pleasure when wee shall thinke good to see them And the said
 enterludes or other to shewe and exercise publiquelie to their best
 comoditie in and about our Cittie of london in such vsuall
 howses as themselues shall pvide And alsoe within anie
 Towne hally mootehalles Guyldhalls Schoolehowses or other
 convenient places within the libtye and freedome of anie other

Cittie vniuersitie Towne or Burroughes whatsoeuer within our Realmes and Domynions willinge and comaundingē you and everie of you as you tender our pleasure not onelie to pmitt and suffer them herein without any your letty hinderances molestaçons or disturbances during our said pleasure but alsoe to be ayding and assistinge vnto them if anie wronge be vnto them offred And to allowe them such former curtesies as hath byne given to men of their place and qualitie And alsoe what further fauour you shall shewe them for our sake wee shall take yt kindelie at your handes Prouided alwayes and our will and pleasure is that all authoritie power priveledge and pfitt whatsoever belonginge or properlie appteyning to the maister of the Revells in respecte of his office and euerie Article and graunte conteyned within the letters Pattents or Comission which haue byne heretofore graunted or directed by the late queene Elizabeth our deere sister or by our selfe to our welbeloued Servant Edward Tylney Maister of the saide Revells or to Sir George Bucke knighte or to eyther of them in possession or reuercon shall remayne and abide entire and in full force effecte and vertue and in as ample sorte as if this our Comission had neuer byne made In witnessse wherof &c' witnessse our selfe at westm' the seaven and Twentieth daye of Aprill

p b̄re de priuato sigillo &c'.

[6 mocon, *sic.* 23 any, *interlined.* 36 Edward, *sic.* 38 reuercon, *sic.*]

X

[1613, January 11. Licence for the Elector Palatine's players (*P. R. 10 Jac. I, pt. 25, in dorso*). This is printed from the Patent Roll for the first time. The Signet Bill, misdescribed as a Privy Seal, is printed by Collier, *H. E. D. P.* i. 366, and Hazlitt, *E. D. S.* 44.]

A speciall Comission Iames by the grace of god &c' To all
for playes. Justices Mayors Sheriffes Bayliffes Con-
stable斯 hedborroughes and all other
our officers and lovinge subiecty greetinge knowe yee that

wee of our speciall grace c'tayne knowledge and meere moçon
haue licenced and auctorized, and by these p'sents doe license
and auctorise Thomas Downton, Wiflm Bird, Edward Iuby
Samuell Rowle, Charles Massey humfrey Ieffy, ffranck Grace,
Wiflm Cartwright, Edward Colbrand, Wiflm Parr Wiflm
Stratford Richard Gunell Iohn Shancke and Richard Price
s'uaunty to our sonne in lawe the elector Palatyne and the
rest of their associats to vse and ex'cise the arte and facultie of
playinge Comedies, tragedies, histories, Enterludes Moralls Pas-
toralls Stageplayes and suche other like as they have alredy
studied or hereafter shall vse or study aswell for the recreaçon
of our lovinge subiecty as for our solace and pleasure when wee
shall thinke good to see them, duringe our pleasure, And the
said Comedies tragedies histories Enterludes Moralls Pastoralls,
Stageplayes and such other like to shewe and ex'cise Publickly
to their best comoditie aswell within their nowe vsuall house
called the ffortune within our County of Middlesex, as also
within any towne halls, or moutehalls or other convenient places
within the libtie and freedome of any Cittie, vniu'stie Towne or
borrough whatsoever within our Realmes and dominions willinge
and coñaudinge you and eu'ye of you as you tender our
pleasure not onely to pmitt and suffer them herein without any
your letty, hynderances or molestaçons duringe our said pleasure,
but also to be aydinge and assistinge vnto them, yf any wronge
be to them offered, And to allowe them such former curtesies, as
hath bene geven to men of their place and qualitie, and also what
further favour you shall shewe vnto them for our sake, we shall
take kindly at your handes. Prouided always and our will and
pleasure is, that all auctoritie power priuledges and pfitty
whatsoever belonginge and pperly appertayninge to the Master
of our Revells in respect of his office and eu'y clause article or
graunt conteyned with in the letters patenty or Coñission which
have beene heretofore graunted or directed to our welbeloved
s'uaunt Sir George Buck knight Master of our said Revells,
shalbe remayne and abyde entire and in full force estate and
v'tue, and in as ample sorte as yf this our Coñission had never

been made, In witnes whereof &c. witnes our selfe at westm
the eleventh daye of Ianuarye p b're de priuato Sigillo

XI

[1615, June 3. Licence for the erection of the Porter's Hall theatre in the Blackfriars (*P.R.* 13 *Jac. I*, pt. 20). This is printed for the first time from the Patent Roll. Collier, *H.E.D.P.* i. 381, and Hazlitt, *E.D.S.* 46, printed it from the Signet Bill, which they misdescribed as a Privy Seal, of May 31. Chalmers (*Variorum*, iii. 493) prints from the Privy Council Register an order of September 26, 1615, forbidding the erection, in spite of the patent, on the ground that the Lord Chief Justice (Sir Edward Coke) had reported that it only sanctioned the building of a playhouse 'without the liberties of London'. This was a legal quibble, apparently rendered possible by the fact that the patent, which recited the actual site proposed, referred to it as 'in the Suburbs of London', whereas it had in fact been brought by the London charter of 1608 within the City jurisdiction (Gildersleeve, *Government Regulation of the Elizabethan Drama*, 200). Nevertheless, the theatre was in fact put up, and a further letter of the Privy Council to the Lord Mayor on 26 January 1617 (*Variorum*, iii. 494) instructs him on behalf of the King to pull it down.]

D' con' regard Pho James by the grace of God &c' To all
Rosseter et al. Maiors Sheriffys Justices of peace Bayliffys
Constables headboroughes and to all other
our Officers Ministers and loving Subjectys to whome these
p'sentys shall come greeting. whereas wee by our tres Patenty
sealed with our great seale of England bearing date the ffourth
day of Ianuary in the seaventh yeare of our Raigne of England
ffraunce and Ireland and of Scotland the three and ffortieth for
the consideracions in the same tres patenty expressed did appoint
and authorise Phillip Rosseter and certaine others from tyme
to tyme to pvide keepe and bring vppe a convenient nomber of
children and them to practise and exercise in the qualitie of
playing by the name of the children of the Revelly to the
Queene within the white ffryers in the Suburbs of our Cittie of
london or in any other convenient place where they the said
Phillip Rosseter and the rest of his partners should thinke

fitting for that purpose As in and by the said tres patentes more at large appeareth And whereas the said Phillip Rosseter and the rest of his said partners have ever since trayned vppe and practised a convenient nomber of children of the Revell^s for the purpose aforesaid in a Messuage or mansion house being parcell of the late dissolved Monastery called the white ffryers neere fletestreete in london which the said Phillip Rosseter did lately hold for terme of certaine yeres expired, And whereas the said Phillip Roseter together with Phillip kingman Robert Iones and Raphe Reeve to continue the said service for the keeping and bringing vppe of the children for the solace and pleasure of our said most deere wife and the better to practise and exercise them in the quallitie of playing by the name of children of the Revell^s to the Queene have latelie taken in lease and farme divers building^s Cellers sollars chambers and yards for the building of a Playhouse therepon for the better practising and exercise of the said children of the Revell^s. All which p'misses are scituat^e and being within the Precinct of the Blacke ffryers neere Puddlewharfe in the Suburbs of london called by the name of the lady Saunders house or otherwise Porters hall and now in the occupation of the said Robert Iones. Nowe knowe yee that wee of our especiall grace certaine knowledge and meere mocion have given and graunted, And by theise p'sents for vs our heires and successors doe give and graunte lycense and authoritie vnto the said Phillip Rosseter Phillip kingman Robert Iones and Raphe Reeve at their pper cost^s and charges to erect build and sett vppe in and vpon the said p'misses before mencioned one convenient Playhouse for the said children of the Revell^s, the same Playhouse to be vsed by the Children of the Revell^s for the tyme being of the Queenes Maiestie and for the Princes Players and for the ladie Elizabeths Players soe tollerated or lawfully lycensed to play exercise and practise them therein, Any lawe Statute Act of Parliament restraint or other matter or thing whatsoever to the contrary notwithstanding. Willing and coⁿauinding you and every of you our said Maiors Sheriff^s Justices of peace Bayliffy Constables headboroughes

and all other our officers and Ministers for the tyme being as
 yee tender our pleasure to permitt and suffer them therein
 without any your letys hinderance molestacion or disturbance
 whatsoever. In witnes whereof &c' witnes our selfe at west-
 minster the third day of Iune p b're de priuato sigillo &c'.

XII

¹⁶¹⁵, July 13. Licence for the Children of the Queen's Chamber of Bristol
 (P. R. 13 Jac. I, pt. 20). This is printed for the first time. The Signet
 Bill is indexed under June, 1615, in Phillimore, 140. In S. P. Dom., Jac. I,
 lxxxii. 12, is a letter of July 10, 1615, from Sir George Buck, Master of the Revels,
 to John Packer, a secretary of the Earl of Somerset, then Lord Chamberlain,
 assenting to the issue of the patent, which is there said to be due to the influence
 of the Queen on behalf, not of John, but of his brother, Samuel Daniel. Chalmers,
Variorum, iii. 426, Collier, II. E. D. P. i. 394, and Hazlitt, E. D. S. 49, also print,
 from 'the State Paper Office', draft Letters of Assistance of April, 1618, apparently
 intended for issue by the Privy Council in John Daniel's favour. In discussing
 these, Collier states that the Privy Council Register for June, 1618, contains
 a letter from the Mayor of Exeter complaining that a company of men actors was
 travelling in virtue of the patent, which was for children only.]

D' con' regard Iames by the grace of God &c' To all Iustices
 John Daniell. of peace Mayors Sheriffys Bayliffys Constables
 headboroughes and other our lovinge subiectys
 and Officers greetinge. knowe yee that wee at the mocion of
 our most deerelie loved consort the Queene have licenced and
 authorised And by theise presynt do licence and authorise our
 welbeloved subiecty Iohn Daniell and his Assigneys to entertaine
 and bringe vp a company of children and youthes vnder the
 name and title of the children of her Maiesties royll Chamber
 of Bristoll to vse and ex'cise the arte and qualitie of playinge
 Comedies histories Enterludes Morally Pastorally Stageplayes
 and such other like as they have alreadie studied or hereafter
 shall studie or vse aswell for the solace and delight of our most
 derely loved Consort the Queene whensoever they shalbe

called as for the recreacion of our loving Subiects. And the said Enterludes or other to shewe and ex'cise publiquely to their best comoditie aswell in and about our said Citie of Bristol in such vsuall houses as themselues shall provide, as other convenient places within the liberties and freedomes of any other Cittie vniversitie Towne or Burrowe whatsoever within our Realmes and Dominions, willing and comauandinge you and euery of you as you tender our pleasures not onelie to permitt and suffer them herein without any your letts hinderances molestacions and disturbances during our said pleasure, but alsoe to be aydinge and assistinge vnto them yf any wronge be done vnto them or to them offred, and to allowe them such further curtesies as have bene given to other of the like qualitie, And alsoe what further grace and favour you shall show vnto them for our sakes wee shall take kindly at your handes. Provided alwaies and our will and pleasure is, all authoritie power priviledge and profit whatsoever belonginge and pperlie apperteyninge to the Maister of the Revells in respect of his office shall remayne and abide entire and in full force effect and vertue and in as ample sort as if this our Commission had never byn made In witnes whereof &c', witnes our selfe at westminster the seaventeenth day of Iuly p b're de priuato sigillo &c'.

[26 them, *interlined.*]

XIII

[1619, March 27. Licence for the King's players (*Exchequer, Treasury of the Receipt, Privy Seals, 17 Jac. I*, Bundle ix, no. 2). This is printed for the first time from the Signet Bill. It is not to be traced in the Index to the Patent Roll. It was printed from the King's Bill 'in the State Paper Office' and misdated 1620 by Collier, *H. E. D. P.* i. 400, and Hazlitt, *E. D. S.* 50. It is not clear at first sight why the company wanted a new licence in 1619, as that of 1603, No. 11, was still valid. Probably the explanation lies in the specific mention of the Blackfriars as a house where they had authority to play. An attempt had been made earlier in the year by the Corporation of London to suppress the house. Cf. the

documents printed and described in pt. i, p. 90 of these *Collections*. The Bill is signed by Francis Windebank as acting Clerk of the Signet.]

Right trusty and right welbeloved Cosen and
greete yo^w well and will and comānd yo^w that vnder or^r Privy
Seale yo^w cause or^r ſres to be directed to or^r Chancello^r of England
willing and coñmanding him that vnder or^r Great Seale of
England, he cause or^r ſres to be made forth Patenty in forme
following. Iames by the grace of god king of England, Scot-
land ffrance and Ireland defendor of the faith &cys. To all
Iusticy Maio^rs, Sheriffys Constables, Headborowes, and other or^r
office^rs and loving Subiecty greeting. Knowe ye that wee of
or^r speciall grace, c'taine knowledge and meere moçon have
licensed and authorized, and by these p'nty do license and
authorize theis or^r welbeloved ſzvants Iohn Hemings, Richard
Burbadge, Henry Condall, John Lowen, Nicholas Tooley, Iohn
Vnderwood, Nathan field, Robert Benfield, Robert Gough,
William Ecclestone, Richard Robinson and Iohn Shanckes and
the rest of their associates freely to use and exercise the Art and
facultie of playing Comedies, Tragedies, Histories, Enterludes,
Morallys, Pastorallys, Stage plaies, and such oth^r like as they
have already studied, or hereafter shall vse or studie, aswell for
y^e recreaçon of or^r loving Subiecty, as for or^r solace and pleasure
when wee shall thinke good to see them, during or^r pleasure. And
the said Comedies, Tragedies, Histories, Enterludes, Morallys,
Pastorallys, Stage Plaies, and such like to shew and exercise
publiquely or otherwise to their best coñmoditie when the in-
feccon of the Plague shall not weeklye exceede the nomber of
forty by the c'tificate of the lord Maior of london for the time
being aswell wthin their two their now usuall houses called the
Globe wthin or^r Couñ of Surrey and their private house ſcituatē
in the p'rincty of the Blackfriars wthin or^r City of london, As
also wthin any Town hally or Mootehally or oth^r convenient
places wthin the libties and freedome of any oth^r City,
University, Towne or Burrough whatſoever wthin or^r ſaid Realmes
and Domynions, Willing and coñmanding yo^w and evy of

yo^w, and all oth^r or loving Subiects as yo^w tender^r or pleasure, not only to pmitt and suffer them herein wthout any yo^r lettys, hinderances or molestacons during o^r said pleasure But also to be ayding and assisting to them if any wrong be to them offered, And to allow them such former curtesies as hath bene given to men of their place and qualitie And also what furth^r favo^r yo^w shall shew to theis o^r ssvants and the rest of their associates for o^r sake, wee shall kindly at yo^r hands. In witnes whereof &c^s And these o^r Ires shalbe yo^r sufficient warr^t and discharge in this behalfe. Given under o^r Signet at o^r Pallace of Westm^r the seaven and twentieth day of March in the seaventeenth yere of o^r Raigne of England, ffrance and Ireland and of Scotland the two and fiftieth. / Windebank

[Addressed] To o^r right trusty and right welbeloved Cosen and Counsellor Edward Earle of Worcester Kep of o^r Privy Seale./.

[Endorsed] Plaiers Licence. /

[*I parily gnawed away.* 4*I shall, sic for shall take it.*] •

XIV

[1625, June 24. Licence for the King's players (*P. R. i Car. I*, pt. i). This was printed from the Patent Roll by Collier, *H. E. D. P.* i. 435, and Hazlitt, *E. D. S.* 57.]

D' con' spial: Charles by the grace of God &c' To all Iustices licenc' Johi Maiors Sheriffes Constables headboroughes heming^r & al: and other our Officers and lovinge Subiects greeting knowe ye that we of our especiall grace certayne knowledge and meere mocion have licenced and authorised, and by these p'sens doe licence and authorise, these our welbeloved Servantz Iohn hemings, henry Condall, Iohn lowen, Ioseph Taylor, Richard Robinson, Robert Benfeild, Iohn Shanck, William Rowley, Iohn Rice, Elliart Swanston,

George Birch, Richard Sharpe and Thomas Pollard, and the rest of their associatys, freely to vse and exercise, the Art and facultye of Playing Comedies, Tragedies, histories, Enterludes Morrally Pastorally, Stageplayes and such other like as they have already Studied or hereafter shall vse or Studdy, aswell for the Recreacion of our loving Subiecty as for our sollace and pleasure when we shall thinke good to see them duringe our pleasure And the saide Comedies Tragedies histories Enterludes Morrally Pastorally, Stageplayes, and such like to shewe and exercise publiquely, or otherwise to theire best cōmodity, when the Infeccion of the plague shall not weeklye exceede the nomber of fyforty by the Certificate of the lord Maior of london for the tyme being, aswell within these twoe theire most vsuall houses called the Globe within our County of Surrey and theire private house scituare within the Precinct of the Blacke ffriers within our City of london As alsoe within any Townehalls or Moutehalls or other convenient places within the liberties and freedome of any other City vniuersity Towne or Burrough whatsoever within our said Realmes and Domynions willing and cōmaunding you and every of you, and all other our loving Subiecty, as you tender our pleasure, not only to pmitt and suffer them herein without any your letty hindraunces or molestaçons duringe our saide pleasure But alsoe to be ayding and assisting to them, yf any wrong be to them offred And to allowe them such former curtesies, as hath bene given to men of theire place and quality And alsoe what further favour you shall shewe to these our Servantz, and the rest of theire Associatys, for our sake we shall take kindly at your handys In witnes &c' witnes our selfe at westm̄ the foure and twentith day of Iune.

p b̄re de priuato sigillo &c' exr

APPENDIX :

The two entries here given are from the Docquet Book of the Signet Office and attest the preparation of Signet Bills, although the licences cannot be found in the bundles of Signet Bills, Privy Seals, and the like, or traced in the *Index* to the Patent Rolls. The fee paid was in each case 6s. 8d.

A.

[1620, February 24. Licence for an unnamed company (*Signet Office Docquet Book*, 7). The existence of this is referred to in one of Sir Henry Herbert's notes with regard to his claims as Master of the Revels at the Restoration (Halliwell-Phillipps, *Dramatic Records*, 93). The company concerned must, in view of Robert Lee's membership, have been Queen Anne's men, who were left patronless by her death on March 2, 1619. The next entry refers to the same company.]

Lee et al^t A Lycense vnder the signet to Robert Lee
and Nicholas Longe wth the rest of their Com-
Lycence panie, to play Comedies histories Interludes &c' Subscribed by the lo: Chamblaine dat'
the 24th febr' 1619

B.

[1622, November (third entry in the month). Licence for the Children of the Revels (*Signet Office Docquet Book*, 7). Malone, *Variorum*, iii. 62, gives the following entry from a copy of one of the Lord Chamberlain's Books in *Inner Temple MS.* No. 515, vol. vii, 'A warrant to the signet-office (dated July 8th, 1622) for a privie seale for his majesties licensing of Robert Lee, Richard Perkins, Ellis Woorth, Thomas Basse, John Blany, John Cumber, and William Robbins, late comedians of Queen Anne deceased, to bring up children in the qualitie and exercise of playing comedies, histories, interludes, morals, pastorals, stage-plaies, and such like, as well for the sollace and pleasure of his majestie, as for the honest recreation of such as shall desire to see them; to be called by the name of the Children of the Revels;—and to be drawne in such a manner and forme as hath been used in other lycenses of that kinde.]

[Nouember 1622]
Lee et al^t A Warrt: vnder the Signet to licence Robert
Warrt. Lee Richard Perkins and others Comedians
to the late Queene Anne to exercise the
quality & Arte of Stage players as they
haue bin heretofore accoustomed Subscr'
by L: Chamblaine and by order from him . .

[Lee et al^t, sic.]